

CARES Act HEERF Student Emergency Funds Report Reporting Period: <u>June 13, 2020 – July 12, 2020</u>

Executive Summary

On April 28, 2020, Rhodes State College signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement. As such, Rhodes State College commits to using at least 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Certification of Agreement

Rhodes State College signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the certification and agreement on April 28, 2020.

Funds Received

Rhodes State College received \$646,037.00 as part of the CARES Act required portion to be used for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Fund Distribution

As of the date of this report, Rhodes State has distributed \$646,037.50 (\$563.25/student 1st payment \$389.12 2nd payment) in Emergency Financial Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Student Eligibility

Based upon the eligibility requirements set forth under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, Rhodes State estimates that 1,138 students were initially eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants. An additional 13 students were estimated to be eligible after the first distribution occurred.

Method for Determining Eligible Students and Amount of Award

Shortly after the Certification and Agreement was signed a Task Force of Rhodes State employees began meeting to determine how funds would be distributed. In keeping with the spirit of the CARES Act, this Task Force decided that funds would be equally distributed to students who met the below criteria:

- Were enrolled in the Spring 2020 or Summer 2020 semesters;
- Were not enrolled in exclusively online courses as of March 13, 2020;
- Who met eligibility requirements under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act; and
- Had submitted a 2019-2020 (Spring semester) or 2020 2021(Summer semester) FAFSA

This method created a payment of \$563.25 per student, which left a surplus of \$5,058.50. These remaining funds were used to assist qualified students who were registered for the Summer 2020 semester and submitted a FAFSA on or after June 2, 2020. These funds were distributed equally amongst the 13 students for a payment of \$389.12/student. This process was completed by July 10, 2020 and has resulted in 100% of the funds being distributed.

Communication to Students Regarding CARES Act Funds

<u>This webpage</u> was created to provide information to students regarding this program. Additionally, text messages and emails were all used to inform students. Questions regarding this report can be submitted to the Project Director by emailing <u>greaney.b1@rhodesstate.edu</u>.

Brewley Greancy	7/12/2020
Signature of Project Director	Date