

Keystone College
CARES Act Emergency Grant Fund Report
January 10, 2021
FINAL REPORT

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Securities (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump. The goal of the CARES Act is to provide “fast and direct economic assistance for American workers and families, small businesses, and [preserve] jobs for American industries.”

Included in this act was \$14.25 billion dollars set aside for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”). Of this funding, Keystone College received \$1,425,853.00 total in funding.

The following information is provided to comply with the reporting standards set in place by the Department of Education for the usage of the student portion of the funding. The following information is recent as of September 18, 2020. Subsequent reports will be made available every 45 days to meet requirements.

- In May of 2020, Keystone College signed and submitted the U.S. Department of Education Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. Upon recognition of this submission and signature, the U.S. Department of Education provided the College a Grant Award Notification to be signed electronically. Keystone College signed the document.
- Keystone College received a total of \$1,425,853.00, of which, no less than fifty percent (50%) would be used towards student needs. The funding received was split between two funds:
 - Funds distributed to students: \$712,927.00
 - Funds distributed to institutional needs: \$712,926.00
- Students who qualify for Title IV Financial Aid are considered eligible to receive grant funding through the CARES Act. There are an estimated 1,300 students that qualify for Title IV.
- On May 6, 2020, students were informed of the CARES Act fund via the KC Morning E-Notes, a campus-wide, morning newsletter. This notice stated “The COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund has been established to assist Keystone College students who have experienced financial hardships due to the pandemic.” The notice linked to the following webpage: [Student Emergency Fund Application](#)

Criteria for eligibility included the following:

- Be a currently enrolled full-time or part-time degree seeking student in an undergraduate or graduate program at Keystone College during the Spring 2019-2020 semester; and

- Demonstrate unexpected financial hardship resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Expenses covered include the following:

- Emergency housing expenses due to a recent loss of income associated with COVID-19;
- Expenses for students facing food insecurity;
- Essential utility expenses, such as water, gas, and electric;
- Emergency medical/dental expenses and prescription medication, if not covered by insurance;
- Emergency childcare expenses;
- Technology expenses, such as Internet, related to the conversion to online learning;
- Travel costs related to death or illness of an immediate family member; and
- Other financial needs arising from individual and/or special circumstances to be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Expenses NOT covered include the following:

- Lost wages due to unemployment as a result of COVID-19;
 - Tuition expenses and student fees;
 - Entertainment and recreational expenses;
 - Non-emergency travel; and
 - Credit card debit.
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- On May 13, 2020, Keystone College President, Dr. Tracy Brundage, issued a letter to Keystone College Students and Families regarding the CARES Act Funding. The letter informed students in regards to the funding, how to apply, deadlines and how the funding would be received. A link to this letter can be found [here](#).
 - The deadline for the first round of applications was May 15, 2020. The monies were issued to students on May 21, 2020 via direct deposit or paper check, depending on the student's preference.
 - The total amount of funds distributed as of January 10, 2021 is **\$712,927.00. Note: This is the full amount awarded to Keystone for the student portion of the CARES Act.**
 - The total number of individual students who have received funding as of **January 10, 2021 is 938. Each of these students received \$775. Since the last report on October 10, 2020, 24 students received the final portion of the CARES Act funding.**
 - Students and their families were provided additional guidance through the College's "Coronavirus Response and Previous Updates" page found [here](#). For questions regarding the CARES Act application process, students were instructed to contact Student Central at studentcentral@keystone.edu.