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**CARES Act: HEERF I:** Oakland City University received \$232,911 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act for distribution to qualifying students to assist with the expenses incurred due to the disruption in their academic program caused by the pandemic.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students as of the date of this report is \$232,911.

Oakland City University estimates 367 students at OCU were eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. As of the date of this report, 304 students who submitted an application were verified as eligible to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant from OCU under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. Another student was awarded a grant after being identified as eligible under the guidelines for CRRSAA HEERF II student portion.

Checks have been mailed to a total of 305 students.

Oakland City University used the following methods to determine which students received Emergency Financial Aid Grants and the amount the individual was to receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act:

1. Student eligibility verified. If a student had filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), then the student demonstrated eligibility to participate in programs under Section 484 the HEA and is deemed eligible to receive a student emergency relief grant.

In addition, OCU verified the student was enrolled in an eligible education program since students who were enrolled exclusively in an online program on March 13, 2020 were not eligible based on guidance from [ED](#).

Students who had not filed a FAFSA but who are eligible to file a FAFSA were requested to provide additional information demonstrating their eligibility for Title IV funds before they are awarded grants by OCU. The criteria to participate in programs under Section 484 of the HEA include but are not limited to the following: U.S. citizenship or eligible noncitizen; a valid Social Security number; registration with Selective Service (if the student is male); and a high school diploma, GED, or completion of high school in an approved homeschool setting.

2. Individual amounts received were weighted. The students indicating the greatest need received a greater amount. Each eligible student who completed a grant application and was verified eligible was awarded a minimum of \$500 with a maximum amount of \$1,400 awarded to those indicating the greatest need.
3. Applications were accepted until November 1, 2020. The remaining funds of \$18,245 that had not been claimed through the application process were reallocated and distributed to 125 students indicating the greatest need.
4. In January it was determined two students were identified as eligible in error. The total amount of \$1,020 that had been awarded to the two students was awarded to a different student who had been identified to receive a student grant under the CRRSAA HEERF II guidelines. The \$1,020 CARES Act HEERF I fund was disbursed to the student on March 31, 2021.

**CRRSAA: HEERF II:** The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. Oakland City University received \$232,911 under Section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSAA for distribution to qualifying students to assist with the expenses incurred due to the disruption in their academic program caused by the pandemic.

The total amount of CRRSAA Student Aid Grants distributed to students as of September 30, 2021 is \$232,911.

Oakland City University identified 230 students at OCU who qualified based on guidance from [ED](#) and who demonstrated financial need based on data accessible to the university, including EFC, professional judgement, and inquiries to the Financial Aid department regarding additional assistance.

As of the date of this report, 223 students accepted the grant. Based on the student's request as designated by the option the student chose on their written acceptance, the grant was applied to their account or a check was sent to the student.

If a student did not cash the emergency financial aid grant check by a reasonable date, OCU attempted to contact the student. If the check was not received, it was voided and reissued. If attempts to contact the student were unsuccessful and the check remains uncashed, OCU voided the check and redistributed the funds to other students. As of the December 31, 2021, three student checks remain outstanding. Follow-up to contact the three students is in process.

Oakland City University used the following methods to determine which students demonstrated financial need and were eligible to receive student financial grants under Section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSAA: HEERF II Student portion:

1. Student enrollment in a qualified program verified on the February 2021 enrollment report.
2. Financial need based on an EFC of 5711 or less.
3. Financial Aid Professional Judgement.

**ARP: HEERF III:** The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. In May 2021, Oakland City University was notified it had been provided with \$917,053 to utilize for student emergency grants based on ARP: HEERF III guidelines. ARP funds are in addition to funds authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260 and the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136.

The total amount of ARP Student Aid Grants distributed to students as of March 31, 2021 is \$916,153.

Oakland City University identified 794 students at OCU who qualified based on guidance from [ED](#) and priority was given first to those who demonstrated remaining full demonstrated financial need based on data accessible to the university, including EFC, Cost of Attendance, Pell Grant eligible, professional judgement, and inquiries to the Financial Aid department regarding additional assistance. Oakland City University will award the funds based on a tiered approach that considers their financial need, full or part-time status, and method of instructional delivery.

As of the date of this report, 790 students were awarded the grant. Based on the student's response as designated by the option the student chose on their written acceptance, the grant was applied to their account, check was sent to the student, or the funds were denied.

If a student does not cash the emergency financial aid grant check by a reasonable date, OCU will attempt to contact the student. If the check is not received, it will be voided and reissued. If attempts to contact the student are unsuccessful and the check remains uncashed, OCU will void the check and redistribute the funds to other students. As of March 31, 5 checks were voided, 11 were reissued from the November 2021 disbursement. The voided checks totaled \$5,250 and OCU will redistribute the funds to other students.

Oakland City University used the following methods will be used to determine which students demonstrate financial need and are eligible to receive student financial grants under Section 314(a)(1) of the ARP: HEERF III Student portion:

1. Oakland City University identified 97 students at OCU who qualified based on guidance from [ED](#)'s May 24, 2021 published HEERF III FAQ document. These students demonstrated remaining full demonstrated financial need based on data accessible to the university, including EFC, Cost of Attendance, Pell Grant eligible, professional judgement, and inquiries to the Financial Aid department regarding additional assistance. The 97 students are included in August 2021 grant payments through G5. Oakland City University awarded the funds based on a tiered approach that considers their financial need, full or part-time status, and method of instructional delivery. Student enrollment in a qualified program verified on July 2021 enrollment report.
2. Oakland City University identified 680 students for the grant payment at OCU. There were 676 students who qualified based on guidance from [ED](#)'s September 30, 2021 published HEERF III FAQ document and one student was later identified as eligible in error. Eighty-four (84) of the ninety-seven (97) students from the summer payment grant were duplicated and also received a grant payment for the fall semester. Priority was to given first to those who demonstrated remaining full demonstrated financial need based on data accessible to the university, including EFC, Cost of Attendance, Pell Grant eligible, other federal or state need-based aid, professional judgement, and inquiries to the Financial Aid department regarding additional assistance. Three students declined their grant and 676 students are included in the November 2021 grant payments through G5. Oakland City University awarded the funds based on a tiered approach that considers their financial need, full or part-time status, and method of instructional delivery. Student enrollment in a qualified program verified on October 17, 2021 enrollment report.
3. Individual amounts received were weighted. The students indicating the greatest need received a greater amount. Each eligible undergraduate student that was verified was awarded a minimum of \$250 and a maximum amount of \$1,500 awarded to those indicating the greatest need. Each eligible graduate student that was verified was awarded a minimum of \$250 and a maximum amount of \$1,000 awarded to those indicating the greatest need.
4. An email was sent to all students on November 2, 2021 notifying them of the grant payment. Any student who would like to have the grant applied to their outstanding balance or would like to decline the grant was given a deadline of November 8, 2021 at 3pm. Any student who did not respond to the email notification which was delivered to their student email, was issued a check. Three students declined the grant by responding to their email notification.
5. On December 17, 2021, it was brought to our attention that one student wished to decline their grant award. The check will be voided and money will be returned.

6. Oakland City University identified 102 students for the grant payment at OCU. There were 102 students who qualified based on guidance from [ED's](#) September 30, 2021 published HEERF III FAQ document. The identified students met the enrollment period of October 18, 2021 through March 11, 2022. Priority was to given first to those who demonstrated remaining full demonstrated financial need based on data accessible to the university, including EFC, Cost of Attendance, Pell Grant eligible, other federal or state need-based aid, professional judgement, and inquiries to the Financial Aid department regarding additional assistance. Oakland City University awarded the funds based on a tiered approach that considers their financial need, full or part-time status, and method of instructional delivery. Student enrollment in a qualified program verified on March 11, 2022 enrollment report.
7. Students identified on March 11, 2022 - Individual amounts received were weighted and \$80,250 ARP funds were awarded. The students indicating the greatest need received a greater amount. Each eligible undergraduate student that was verified was awarded a minimum of \$250 and a maximum amount of \$1,500 awarded to those indicating the greatest need. Each eligible graduate student that was verified was awarded a minimum of \$250 and a maximum amount of \$1,000 awarded to those indicating the greatest need.
8. An email was sent to all students on March 11, 2021 notifying them of the grant payment. Any student who chose to have the grant applied to their outstanding balance or would like to decline the grant was given a deadline of March 23, 2022 at 3pm. Any student who did not respond to the email notification which was delivered to their student email, was issued a check.
9. After the last grant disbursement, \$62,903 of the ARP funds remain and must be spent. Oakland City University determined that the remaining funds would be spent equally between any student who filed a FAFSA and demonstrated more than \$9,000 in remaining full demonstrated financial need. In this process 95 students were identified. An email was sent to all students on March 11, 2021 notifying them of the grant payment. Any student who chose to have the grant applied to their outstanding balance or would like to decline the grant was given a deadline of March 23, 2022 at 3pm. Any student who did not respond to the email notification which was delivered to their student email, was issued a check. If a student later declines or does not cash the check, funds will be awarded to the next student on the identified as eligible list.
10. After emails were sent for the remaining funds to students, two emails bounced back. After looking up each student, they were identified as incarcerated students who completed a FAFSA and should have been excluded from the report. Those names were removed and the next two students on the identified as eligible list were then notified about the grant funds on March 14.