

## Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

### *The Art Institute of Atlanta CARES Act Reporting*

To assist students who have been impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic, The Art Institute of Atlanta is distributing emergency government grant funding via the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act" or the "Act"). The CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) supplies funding to institutions to provide emergency financial aid grants to students who may have been impacted by disruption to campus operations due to coronavirus. The CARES Act requires all colleges and universities to provide access to the following information:

1. The Art Institute of Atlanta signed and returned to the Department of Education (the "Department") the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. The Art Institute of Atlanta has received \$1,589,516 from the Department for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
3. The Art Institute of Atlanta disbursed \$53,737.12 to students in Winter quarter 2021.
4. The Art Institute of Atlanta estimates that approximately 251 students are/will be eligible to receive the Emergency Financial Aid Grant
5. 10 students received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant in Winter quarter 2021.
6. All currently enrolled Title IV eligible students at The Art Institute of Atlanta will receive an initial stipend in the amount of \$500.00. Receipt of the initial stipend is contingent upon eligible students certifying he/she has incurred at least \$500.00 of expenses related to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Eligible students at The Art Institute of Atlanta may request additional emergency relief funds by applying via the secure student portal. The requesting student must specify the nature of the expense, the amount of aid requested for the associated expense and, if possible, provide supporting documentation for the expense. Supporting documentation should include, but is not limited to, utility bills, rent statements, etc. Requests will be reviewed by a committee comprised of representatives from the Student Finance, Student Services and Academic Affairs Departments. Submission of a request for emergency aid and/or supporting documentation does not guarantee allocation of aid or allocation of the requested aid amount.

In accordance with guidelines provided by the Department of Education, the maximum eligibility of total emergency aid per student under the CARES Act is \$6,195.00, i.e., the maximum Federal Pell Grant eligibility for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Aid granted under the CARES Act will be awarded through a fund source in Campus Nexus and disbursed directly to the student in the form of a stipend to be administered and disbursed by Bank Mobile in accordance with established institutional practices.

7. An [email](#) was sent to currently enrolled students on April 30, 2020, informing students they may receive a stipend of \$500.00 in emergency aid funds to be used for expenses incurred as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. This email included the steps for students to certify through a student [acknowledgment](#) they have incurred at least \$500.00 in expenses due to the COVID-19 disruption stipend, including eligibility and instructions. A follow-up [email](#) was sent to all currently enrolled students on May 16, 2020, informing of the process to [request](#) additional emergency relief funds by applying via the secure student portal, including instructions for supplying and submitting supporting documentation, the review process, the anticipated timeline for review and who to contact with any questions about the process. Additionally, instructions were provided on how the funds would be made payable to the students account. Any questions on the process to request funds should be directed to [caresactfunds@aii.edu](mailto:caresactfunds@aii.edu).

An additional [email](#) was sent to currently enrolled students on August 25, 2020, informing students that they may be eligible for receipt of a technology stipend of \$750.00 in emergency aid funds to be used for expenses incurred as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. This email included the steps for students to certify through a student [acknowledgment](#) that they have incurred at least \$750.00 in technology and internet expenses as they continue their education remotely due to the COVID-19 disruption, including eligibility and instructions.

**Quarterly Budget and Expenditure Reporting under CARES Act Sections 18004(a)(1) Institutional Portion, 18004(a)(2), and 18004(a)(3), if applicable**

**Institution Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Report:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Covering Quarter Ending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount of Funds Awarded:** Section (a)(1) Institutional Portion: \_\_\_\_\_ Section (a)(2): \_\_\_\_\_ Section (a)(3): \_\_\_\_\_ **Final Report?**

Category	Amount in (a)(1) institutional dollars	Amount in (a)(2) dollars, if applicable	Amount in (a)(3) dollars, if applicable	Explanatory Notes
Providing additional emergency financial aid grants to students. <sup>1</sup>				
Providing reimbursements for tuition, housing, room and board, or other fee refunds.				
Providing tuition discounts.				
Covering the cost of providing additional technology hardware to students, such as laptops or tablets, or covering the added cost of technology fees.				
Providing or subsidizing the costs of high-speed internet to students or faculty to transition to an online environment.				
Subsidizing off-campus housing costs due to dormitory closures or decisions to limit housing to one student per room; subsidizing housing costs to reduce housing density; paying for hotels or other off-campus housing for students who need to be isolated; paying travel expenses for students who need to leave campus early due to coronavirus infections or campus interruptions.				
Subsidizing food service to reduce density in eating facilities, to provide pre-packaged meals, or to add hours to food service operations to accommodate social distancing.				
Costs related to operating additional class sections to enable social distancing, such as those for hiring more instructors and increasing campus hours of operations.				
Campus safety and operations. <sup>2</sup>				

<sup>1</sup> To support any element of the cost of attendance (as defined under Section 472 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA)) per Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act and the [Interim Final Rule](#) published in the *Federal Register* on June 17, 2020 (85 FR 36494). Community Colleges in California, all public institutions in Washington State, and all institutions in Massachusetts have different requirements due to recent U.S. District Court actions. Please discuss with legal counsel. [HEERF litigation updates can be found here.](#)

<sup>2</sup> Including costs or expenses related to the disinfecting and cleaning of dorms and other campus facilities, purchases of personal protective equipment (PPE), purchases of cleaning supplies, adding personnel to increase the frequency of cleaning, the reconfiguration of facilities to promote social distancing, etc.

Category	Amount in (a)(1) institutional dollars	Amount in (a)(2) dollars, if applicable	Amount in (a)(3) dollars, if applicable	Explanatory Notes
Purchasing, leasing, or renting additional instructional equipment and supplies (such as laboratory equipment or computers) to reduce the number of students sharing equipment or supplies during a single class period and to provide time for disinfection between uses.				
Replacing lost revenue due to reduced enrollment.				
Replacing lost revenue from non-tuition sources (i.e., cancelled ancillary events; disruption of food service, dorms, childcare or other facilities; cancellation of use of campus venues by other organizations, lost parking revenue, etc.). <sup>3</sup>				
Purchasing faculty and staff training in online instruction; or paying additional funds to staff who are providing training in addition to their regular job responsibilities.				
Purchasing, leasing, or renting additional equipment or software to enable distance learning, or upgrading campus wi-fi access or extending open networks to parking lots or public spaces, etc.				
Other Uses of (a)(1) Institutional Portion funds. <sup>4</sup>				
Other Uses of (a)(2) or (a)(3) funds, if applicable. <sup>5</sup>				
<b>Quarterly Expenditures for each Program</b>				
<b>Total of Quarterly Expenditures</b>				

<sup>3</sup> Including continuance of pay (salary and benefits) to workers who would otherwise support the work or activities of ancillary enterprises (e.g., bookstore workers, foodservice workers, venue staff, etc.).

<sup>4</sup> Please post additional documentation as appropriate and briefly explain in the “Explanatory Notes” section. Please note that costs for Section 18004(a)(1) Institutional Portion funds may only be used “to cover any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus, so long as such costs do not include payment to contractors for the provision of pre-enrollment recruitment activities; endowments; or capital outlays associated with facilities related to athletics, sectarian instruction, or religious worship.”

<sup>5</sup> Please post additional documentation as appropriate and briefly explain in the “Explanatory Notes” section. Please note that costs for Sections 18004(a)(2) and (a)(3) funds may only be used “to defray expenses, including lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses already incurred, technology costs associated with a transition to distance education, faculty and staff trainings, payroll incurred by institutions of higher education and for grants to students for any component of the student’s cost of attendance (as defined under section 472 of the HEA), including food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care.”

## Form Instructions

**Completing the Form:** On each form, fill out the institution of higher education (IHE or institution) name, the date of the report, the appropriate quarter the report covers (September 30, December 31, March 31, June 30), the total amount of funds awarded by the Department (including reserve funds if awarded), and check the box if the report is a “final report.” In the chart, an institution must specify the amount of expended CARES Act funds for each funding category: Sections 18004(a)(1) Institutional Portion, 18004(a)(2), and 18004(a)(3), if applicable. Section 18004(a)(2) funds includes CFDA 84.425J (Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)), 84.425K (Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)), 84.425L (Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)), 84.425M (Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP)); Section 18004(a)(3) funds are for CFDA 84.425N (Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) Formula Grant). Each category is deliberately broad and may not capture specific grant program requirements. Explanatory footnotes help clarify certain reporting categories. While some items in the chart are blocked out, please note that the blocking of such items is consistent with Department guidance and FAQs and is not definitive. Provide brief explanatory notes for how funds were expended, including the title and brief description of each project or activity in which funds were expended. Do not include personally identifiable information (PII). Calculate the amount of the Section 18004(a)(1) Institutional Portion (referred to as “(a)(1) institutional” in the chart), Section 18004(a)(2) (referred to as “(a)(2)” in the chart), and Section 18004(a)(3) (referred to as “(a)(3)” in the chart) funds in the “Quarterly Expenditures for each Program” row, and the grand total of all three in the “Total of Quarterly Expenditures” row. Round expenditures to the nearest dollar.

**Posting the Form:** This form must be conspicuously posted on the institution’s primary website on the same page the reports of the IHE’s activities as to the emergency financial aid grants to students made with funds from the IHE’s allocation under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act (Student Aid Portion) are posted. It may be posted in an HTML webpage format or as a link to a PDF. A new separate form must be posted covering each quarterly reporting period (September 30, December 31, March 31, June 30), concluding after either (1) posting the quarterly report ending September 30, 2022 or (2) when an institution has expended and liquidated all (a)(1) Institutional Portion, (a)(2), and (a)(3) funds and checks the “final report” box. IHEs must post this quarterly report form no later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter (October 10, January 10, April 10, July 10) apart from the first report, which is due October 30, 2020. For the first report using this form, institutions must provide their cumulative expenditures from the date of their first HEERF award through September 30, 2020. Each quarterly report must be separately maintained on an IHE’s website or in a PDF document linked directly from the IHE’s CARES Act reporting webpage. Reports must be maintained for at least three years after the submission of the final report per 2 CFR § 200.333. Any changes or updates after initial posting must be conspicuously noted after initial posting and the date of the change must be noted in the “Date of Report” line.

## Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1840-0849. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Under the PRA, participants are required to respond to this collection to obtain or retain benefit. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this individual collection, or if you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual form, application, or survey, please contact: Jack Cox, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202.