REPORT ON <u>CARES ACT EMERGENCY GRANTS TO STUDENTS</u> Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)

January 7, 2021

Under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, a total funding allocation was established for Nashua Community College with at least 50 percent reserved to provide students with emergency financial aid grants to help cover expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus.

Nashua Community College submitted a signed *"Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement"* to the US Department of Education for the emergency financial aid grants to students portion (HEERF), acknowledging that \$401,179 was allocated "to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a a student's cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care)."

HOW MUCH IN EMERGENCY GRANT FUNDS HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO STUDENTS?

As of	Total Amount Disbursed	Total Number of Students
July 6, 2020	\$391,000.00	739
May 22, 2020	\$0.00	0
September 14, 2020	\$4,200.00	6
January 7, 2021	\$1,600.00	3

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID GRANT FUNDS?

To be eligible for emergency financial aid grant funding, as outlined under CARES Act Section 18004(a)(1) students must:

- have been matriculated in a Title IV eligible program
- enrolled as of March 13, 2020
- be eligible to participate in programs under <u>Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education</u> <u>Act of 1965</u>

As of	Estimated Number of Eligible Students	
May 22, 2020	1,172	

HOW WILL/DID NASHUA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DETERMINE WHICH STUDENTS RECEIVE FUNDS?

On April 28, 2020, NCC emailed students (student email) indicating NCC's receipt of HEERF funds.

On May 19, 2020, NCC emailed students (student email) and on May 22, 2020 texted students to notify them of the application process and requirements of HEERF funds. Students were provided instructions to complete a simple application through the Student Information System (SIS) with a priority deadline of June 5, 2020 (as follows):

"To be considered for CARES Act Emergency Student Fund Eligibility,

- Your school must have a FAFSA on file (2019-2020)
 - If you have not, there is still time. Complete your 2019-2020 <u>FAFSA</u> before June 20, 2020.
- You must be making satisfactory academic progress in a degree or certificate program
- You must have been registered for Spring Semester program course(s) as of March 13, 2020
- You must demonstrate eligibility to participate in programs under Section 484 of the HEA <u>Click here for</u> <u>more details</u>

The application is now available on the <u>Student Information System</u>. Login and click on the "CARES Act Funding Application" tab.

For priority consideration, please complete your application and meet eligibility requirements by June 5, 2020. Funds are limited. "

These applications were the basis for the first process of determining student need and these students received priority in the awarding of funds. On June 9, 2020, 146 students who met the above criteria and answered yes to qualifying expense on the application were awarded \$1,800.00.

A secondary process identified Pell eligible who met the above criteria; these students were determined by NCC to have been affected by the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. The secondary process also identified students who completed a survey or became eligible after the priority deadline. On June 17, 2020, the following groups received funding:

- Late application/late eligibility students: 1 non-Pell eligible student received \$500.00
 6 Pell eligible students received \$1,100.00
- Non-application students:
 267 non-Pell eligible students received \$125.00
 319 Pell eligible students received \$275.00

A third process awarded and will continue to award the remaining amount of \$10,179 through an application requiring students to meet the above criteria.

- 8 Pell eligible students received additional funds ranging from \$600.00 to \$800.00
- 2 non-Pell eligible student received additional funds ranging from \$400.00 to \$1,000.00
- Unclaimed funds of \$5,100 for 19 students from previous awarding will be awarded under this process

HOW WILL/DID STUDENTS RECEIVE THEIR FUNDS?

Funds were posted directly to student accounts through the Bursar's Office the weeks of June 10, 2020 and June 17, 2020. Students were sent an email notifying them of their eligibility for the CARES Act Funding from the financial aid office the weeks of June 10, 2020 and June 22, 2020. Students were sent

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an email notifying them of the amount of the refund and that the funds would be send to them via Nelnet. Students receiving funds in the third round received them in the same manner and notification as all other students. Awarded students may have elected to receive awards via direct deposit by following the "How to Sign Up for Electronic Refunding" process at https://www.ccsnh.edu/paying-for-college/resources/ccsnh-student-refunds. If direct deposit was not set up, HEERF funds were mailed to students at the permanent address on file at the College.