

Drury University

CARES Act Student Grant Policy and Procedure

Purpose: The [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#) was signed into law on March 27, 2020. It establishes and funds the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), providing emergency funds to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. Drury University will receive a total of [\\$2,470,201](#) under the CARES Act.

Policy: Drury University has signed and returned to the US Department of Education the required Certification and Agreement, and will use no less than 50% of funds received under Sections 18004(a)(1) and 18004(c) of the CARES Act to provide grants directly to students. These funds will be issued directly to students, unencumbered by balances otherwise owed to the institution. Funding will be issued according to Drury's standard refund process.

Student Eligibility: To be eligible for HEERF funds, students must meet [eligibility requirements](#) established by the United States Department of Education. This includes, but is not limited to, the following requirements:

1. Meets the student eligibility criteria for Title IV eligibility outlined in [Section 484 of the HEA](#), as demonstrated by filing the FAFSA, and
2. Was not enrolled in strictly A Block coursework, and
3. Was not enrolled in only online classes for the spring semester, and
4. Is admitted to a degree or approved certificate program, and
5. Has not been suspended from federal aid based on Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Procedure: Drury has established categories of students who have been impacted by coronavirus and meet the Student Eligibility requirements established in the Policy section of this document.

Category 1: VA Education Benefit Recipients

In response to the coronavirus, Drury extended Spring Break by one week. Subsequently, B Block coursework was shifted from eight weeks in length to seven weeks. This reduced the housing benefit this group of students was eligible to receive. Students who were receiving VA Education benefits for B block courses were provided with HEERF Funds to replace the lost housing benefits due to the change in academic calendar caused by coronavirus. Amounts were calculated based on one week of expected housing benefits for each benefit recipient's program. A total of \$32,152 was granted to 130 students. A list of recipients and amounts is maintained in the Financial Aid Office.

Category 2: All Eligible Students

As a result of coronavirus, Drury moved all courses online after spring break. As a result, all students who were enrolled in seated coursework were required to provide additional resources for their home that otherwise would not have been necessary. These additional

resources required of students as a result of transitioning to online coursework include, but are not limited to:

1. Meals eaten at home that would previously have been provided on campus,
2. Increased electric bill due from more time at home (heat and air, electricity, etc.),
3. Establish internet access or increase to a higher speed to accommodate virtual learning, or
4. Other technology needs related to virtual learning.

Award amounts were determined based on a combination of the student's 2019-20 EFC and their enrollment. For the purposes of this policy, full time is defined as 12 hours or more for undergraduate students and 6 hours or more for graduate students.

EFC	Full Time Award	Part Time Award
\$0-10,000	\$1,000	\$500
\$10,001 or greater	\$600	\$300

Providing funds to students in this fashion allows us to prioritize our students with the highest financial need, and mirrors the Economic Impact Payments provided to all eligible citizens through the CARES Act. A total of \$1,107,400 was granted to 1566 students. A list of recipients and amounts is maintained in the Financial Aid Office.

Category 3: Students with Additional HEERF Eligible Expenses

Drury recognizes that some students have experienced a higher financial impact due to the transition to online learning than can be addressed through standard HEERF payments above. Students who can document expenses related the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus in excess of the standard payment may be provided with additional grant funds. While a student may have significant expenses or loss of income due to coronavirus, only those expenses directly related to the disruption of campus operations can be considered for HEERF funds.

To apply for additional HEERF funding, students must complete the application in MyDrury and submit documentation of applicable expenses. Documentation may include, but is not limited to, receipts, invoices, or other information that documents real and reasonable expenses. Applications submitted without supporting documentation will not be reviewed.

Complete applications will be reviewed by the Drury CARES Emergency Fund Committee. If the documents provided clearly substantiate the eligible expenses claimed in the application, beyond the initial amount provided to the student, the Office of Financial Aid will process a grant in the amount of documented expenses, not to exceed \$1,000. Exceptions must be approved by two members of the President's Senior Leadership Team. Students will be notified of the outcome of their application via their Drury email. A record of these awards and the supporting documentation provided is maintained in the Financial Aid Office.

Category 4: Students Requesting Additional Funds via Student Support Fund Applications

Drury University created a COVID Student Support Fund Application for students to request additional funds based on eligible expenses. This application was available publicly on the Drury website. Eligible students were reviewed by the Drury University Go Beyond Committee, whose members include:

David Hinson, Chief of Staff

Chelsey Dollarhide, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Beth Harville, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Tijuana Julian, Vice President of Student Affairs

Dr. Kevin Kropf, Vice President of Enrollment Management

Of more than 350 applications to the Student Support Fund, 140 students who previously received HEERF Funding were approved for additional awards, which ranged from \$400 to \$4000 as determined by the committee. Total awards of \$87,879 were made to Category 4 recipients. Students were notified of the outcome of their application via their Drury email. A record of these awards is maintained in the Financial Aid Office.