Peru State College CARES Act 30-Day Fund Report

Published June 4, 2020

Section 18004(e) if the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act" of the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 116-136 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020), direct institutions receiving funds under Section 18004 of the Act to submit (in a time and manner required by the Secretary) a report to the Secretary describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund ("HEERF"). Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires institutions to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received from Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act 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 student's cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

The Certification and Agreement directs each institution applying for HEERF funds to comply with Section 18004(e) of the CARES Act and submit an initial report (the "30-day Fund Report") to the Secretary thirty (30) days from the date of the institution's Certification and Agreement to the Department.

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to 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.

Peru State College signed and returned the Certification and Agreement to the U.S. Department of Education and 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 total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Peru State College will receive \$413,672 from the U.S. Department of Education pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

- 3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter). As of June 4, 2020, the total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to Peru State College students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is \$0. Distribution of funds is targeted for mid-June.
- 4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. There are approximately 747 students at Peru State College who are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in the Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
- 5. The total number of students who have received Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. As of June 4, 2020, Peru State College has not distributed any funds as an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
- 6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Peru State College chose to communicate by email on April 28, 2020 to students enrolled in the Spring 2020 semester about the opportunity to apply for financial assistance through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) act. This communication encouraged students to complete an application in their on-line student account.

The applications were reviewed to assure they met federal qualifications to receive funding. Points were distributed based on FAFSA information, application data, and those with the greatest financial impact and need. Amounts of the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students were determined using defined parameters and based on student's application responses.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

In an attempt to honor the Department of Education guidance to promptly make available emergency financial aid grants directly to students, Peru State College focused on keeping the application short and easy. Information and instructions were provided to students in the April 28, 2020 email communication.

Both the application and the e-mail announcing the application were vetted with a group of students and staff prior to release to ensure readability and clarity. Feedback from those students and staff were integrated into the final version. The application was available when the email was distributed at 10:57 a.m. April 28, 2020. The email stated students could contact the One Stop Office with any questions regarding the CARES Act at <u>onestop@peru.edu</u> or (402) 872-2228.