



## Student Emergency Fund

Report through 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter: 04/21/2020 to 09/30/2021

Initial grant application submission: 04/21/2020

U.S. Department of Education - Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF)

### INTRODUCTION

Delta College's Emergency Fund was created in May 2020 to provide assistance to students for expenses and financial emergencies related to the coronavirus pandemic. It will help students stay in college and meet their educational goals, ultimately, securing a better financial future. Grants to students are intended to go DIRECTLY TO STUDENTS to provide support to students continuing their education as well as any expenses related to the disruption of campus operations.

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (ended September 30, 2021), no new awards were distributed; however, preparations are in progress to send out additional funding early in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (October 2021). This information is posted on the College's public website and will be continue to be updated every quarter (90 days).

### REPORTING

#### 1. Certification and Agreement

Delta College acknowledges that it signed and returned its Certification and Agreement document on April 21, 2020 to the U.S. Department of Education. We assure that we will be using these funds to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.

#### 2. Total Funding Received

Delta College has been allocated \$14,637,406 of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF), specifically designated to be provide direct emergency funding support to students. The College received the following awards:

PR/Award number: P425E202826

- \$2,573,303 - Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
- \$2,573,303 - Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSAA) Act
- \$9,490,800 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

The budget period for spending of the direct student aid awarded is 04/25/2020 to 05/11/2022.

Additionally, Delta College was awarded grant funding to cover Institutional costs associated with Coronavirus. The College is also allowed to utilize this funding to provide direct support to students. The College utilized a portion of the following award for direct emergency grants to students.

- PR/Award number: P425F203939
  - \$2,573,303 – Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, budget period 06/11/2020 to 05/11/2022.



### **3. Total Distributed To Date**

Delta College has distributed a total of \$6,897,600 HEERF Grants to students as of the date of this report. \$2,233,000 was awarded thru 12/31/2020 under CARES regulations. The remaining of the original \$340,303 CARES funding was awarded in the quarter ended 03/31/2021 under CRRSAA and ARPA award guidance, which greatly expanded eligibility. Total distributed awards were funded from the following sources:

- Thru 12/31/2020 – Total \$2,233,000 from #P425E202826 (student direct support) – CARES
- 01/01/2021 to 03/31/2021 - Total \$3,131,800
  - \$340,303 from #P425E202826 (student direct support) – CARES Act (now fully expended)
  - \$350,276 from #P425F203939 (institutional support) – CARES Act (now fully expended)
  - \$2,441,221 from #P425E202826 (student direct support) – CRRSAA Act
- 04/01/2021 to 06/30/2021 – Total \$1,532,800
  - \$132,082 from #P425E202826 – CRRSAA Act (now fully expended)
  - \$1,400,718 from #P425E202826 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) (\$8,090,082 remains of the \$9,490,800 grant)

### **4. Estimated Number of Eligible Students**

Delta College determined there were 15,473 students (duplicated) eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under HEERF. Delta College identified:

- 5,595 eligible students were identified in Winter, Spring, and Fall of 2020 according to the original CARES Act guidance, and could request emergency funds by application.
- 6,643 eligible students were identified for the Winter 2021 semester, according to CRRSAA guidance. 19 additional students were subsequently awarded for the winter semester when Spring 2021 awards were distributed. These were international students that were initially excluded since the College was unable to verify citizenship. Under ARP guidance these students became eligible to receive a grant payment.
- 3,216 students were identified for the Spring 2021 semester, according to CRRSAA and ARPA guidance.

### **5. Number of Student Awards**

Delta College issued awards of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds to the following number of students in the time periods noted below. Please note that these numbers contain some duplicated students that received awards in more than one of the time periods.

- 2,543 students thru 12/31/2020
- 6,643 students from 01/01/2021 to 03/31/2021
- 3,235 students from 04/01/2021 to 06/30/2021



## 6. Determination/Selection Method Used

Delta College utilized its enterprise system, Elucian Colleague to help identify students who are eligible to receive HEERF student aid funding. Under the original CARES funding, applications for funding were submitted by students and reviewed for Delta degree, enrollment, and Title IV eligibility.

According to the updated guidance pertaining to Emergency Financial Aid Grants now awarded under CRRSAA and ARPA, students no longer had to meet the Title IV eligibility requirements, as they did under CARES guidance. In the first quarter of 2021, Delta College developed the award structure below which prioritizes students based upon their financial need. The award structure aligns with the U.S. Department of Education guidance under CRRSAA and ARPA received to date.

- Students with a \$0 EFC (Expected Family Contribution) figure on their FAFSA, receive \$800 each. These students have the highest financial need and are eligible to receive full Pell grants, according to the Department of Education.
- Students who are eligible for a Pell grant, with an EFC amount that falls above \$0 but within the Pell range, receive \$600 each.
- Students whose FAFSA EFC was too high for a Pell grant award, but who may be eligible for other forms of financial aid, such as loans, receive \$400 each.
- All other students who did not complete a FAFSA, or have no EFC calculation, receive \$200 each.

As allowed under the ARPA regulations, all categories of students enrolled as of the College's official count date of the awarded semester were considered in our needs evaluation and granted awards. The only population of students that we have deemed ineligible are incarcerated students currently enrolled through the Second Chance Pell program.

- Based upon the criteria outlined above, award amounts were added to student accounts utilizing a separate AR Code so that it would not get commingled with Tuition and Fee balances that a student might owe.
- In previous quarters, when awards were made, students were sent an email notifying them that they had been awarded an emergency grant.
- The College's Student Billing staff subsequently mailed paper checks to students who were awarded grants.

## 7. Student Communications

No new communications were developed, since no new emergency grant funding was processed during this quarter.