



## CARES Act

# Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting

## Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

### FINAL REPORT

October 9, 2020

1. Eastern Nazarene College signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the HEERF to Students Certification and Agreement on April 14, 2020. The allocation was available on April 24<sup>th</sup> and received by ENC from the Department starting on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The institution has used and intends to use no less than 50% of the CARES Act Funding received to provide emergency financial aid grants to students. Update: All available funds were distributed to students as of October 8, 2020.
2. The total amount of funds ENC has received for emergency grants to students is \$380,707.
3. The total amount distributed to students as of the date of this report is \$380,707.
4. The total number of students enrolled at ENC in the spring semester 2020 and eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 is 596.
5. The total number of students who have received an emergency financial aid grant as of the date of this report is 287.
6. The method used by ENC for determining which students receive emergency financial aid grants and how much they receive is as follows:

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolved during the spring 2020 semester, Eastern Nazarene College suspended in-person classes on March 13<sup>th</sup> for the safety, health, and well-being of the community. All residential undergraduate students were asked to move out of campus housing by Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

ENC received an allocation of \$761,413 through the CARES Act HEERF. Fifty percent (\$380,707) of the allocation must be awarded for the sole and exclusive purpose of

providing emergency financial aid grants to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses. In accordance with the CARES Act certification and agreement, Eastern Nazarene College will promptly provide emergency financial aid to students for their expenses.

#### **How will award eligibility be determined?**

- Due to their displacement and the disruption of their housing and meal plans for a portion of the spring semester, students who are eligible for Title IV financial aid and were charged for spring 2020 on-campus housing and a meal plan, and who moved out of college housing as of March 17, 2020, will be awarded a “COVID-19 Grant” provided through the HEERF. Non-US citizens will receive an equivalent “ENC COVID-19 Grant” provided by institutional resources.
- In addition, all students will be eligible to apply for emergency relief funding through a COVID-19 financial aid appeal process. A reasonable amount of funds from the HEERF will be set aside specifically to address students who have significant financial need due to the disruption of campus operations.

#### **How will the award amounts be calculated?**

- The amount of the COVID-19 Grant for students who moved out of on-campus housing will be \$1,250 (\$625 if the student had meal plan charges only).
- For students who are approved for emergency relief funding based on their special circumstances, the awards will vary depending on financial need. The award will not exceed the maximum Federal Pell Grant.

#### **How will the funds be disbursed to students?**

The COVID-19 Grant will be awarded and a check for the full amount of the award will be promptly sent to the student. The disbursement of the COVID-19 Grant to the student will remain unencumbered by the institution; debts, charges, fees, or other amounts owed to the institution will not be deducted from the emergency financial aid grant.

ENC will award all HEERF funds within one year and will abide by all federal reporting requirements.

7. ENC provided the following instructions, directions, and guidance to students concerning the emergency financial aid grants:
  - a. **COVID-19 Grants – this email was sent to all students who had their housing and meals disrupted by COVID-19.**

**From:** [sfs@enc.edu](mailto:sfs@enc.edu) <[sfs@enc.edu](mailto:sfs@enc.edu)>

**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2020 10:55 AM

To: Hynes, Rebecca S <[rebecca.hynes@enc.edu](mailto:rebecca.hynes@enc.edu)>

Subject: COVID-19 Grant



Dear ENC student:

These last few weeks have been very difficult for most everyone. It has been especially challenging for students who were required to move out of college student housing due to COVID-19 and the related disruption of campus operations. We are happy to inform you that we have taken action to assist with your additional housing and food expenses for the last six weeks of the spring semester.

Due to the COVID-19 disruption of housing and meal plans for the spring 2020 semester, Eastern Nazarene College will be awarding a \$1,250 COVID-19 Grant to all residential undergraduate students who moved out of college housing by March 17, 2020. Funding for this award is provided through the CARES Act to assist students with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus.

You will be receiving a check from ENC for \$1,250 mailed to your home address within the next two weeks. Please know that by receiving this check, it does not necessarily indicate that your student account is paid in full. We encourage you to review your student account balance on your student portal. We wish you well and pray that you and your family are safe and healthy. Please do not hesitate to contact Student Financial Services at [sfs@enc.edu](mailto:sfs@enc.edu) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bob Cornell, Chief Financial Officer

Troy Martin, Director of Student Financial Services

- b. COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grants – this was announced in 1) the ENC weekly COVID-19 Briefing to the ENC community and 2) the weekly Campus Chronicle to students**

### **COVID-19 Student Relief Fund**

The College has established a COVID-19 Student Emergency Relief Fund through the CARES Act to assist students with urgent financial needs related to the novel coronavirus. The intent is to assist ENC students who are experiencing temporary financial hardship related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19. The funds are limited and not intended to provide ongoing relief.

Some examples of qualified expenses for emergency relief funding include:

- School supplies (textbooks, software, lab materials, etc.)
- Technology (internet access, computer, etc.)
- Housing (rent/utilities)
- Food/groceries

- Transportation expenses
- Unreimbursed medical bills
- Childcare expenses

[Application for ENC COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant](#)