

*Questions? Contact:*

This document provides the necessary information to comply with Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act" or the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281.

Institution Name:

Date of report:

Institution has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement document under CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Total amount of **funds the institution will receive** from the Department for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students:

**OR**

Total amount of **funds the institution has received** from the Department for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students:

**TOTAL AMOUNT** of Emergency Financial Aid **Grants DISTRIBUTED to students** under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act *as of the date of this report*:

**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:

**TOTAL NUMBER of STUDENTS** who **HAVE RECEIVED** an Emergency Financial Aid Grant:

**Method(s) used by the institution to determine WHICH STUDENTS receive** Emergency Financial Aid Grants and **HOW MUCH** they would receive:

We obtained a list of all students who were enrolled for the spring 2021 semester who were also eligible for Title IV financial aid and met the qualifications as set by the Department of Education. We divided the students into groups based on their Academic level, Student Type and Term Load along with residential status for the spring 2021 semester and identified key expenses that each group may have encountered related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. The key expenses included rent, relocation, food, and technology expenses. We also allocated more funds to those students with higher financial need based on their expected family contribution from their current FAFSA.

Students were required to complete an online survey that was sent to them via their AQ student email address. This survey required them to indicate by which means they wanted their funds disbursed - direct payment, applied to their outstanding balance or as a credit on their account for future semesters. Disbursements will be made weekly based on the responses received.

Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid

Grants:

The following message was sent to students receiving the CARES Act funds:

We hope you are well and are finishing your semester strong. We wanted to provide you with some information regarding the federal government's Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, how it affects you and actions you need to take to receive your disbursement.

The federal government approved the CARES Act on March 27, 2020. This included an allocation of funds to higher education institutions based on a specific calculation involving the number of students eligible for the Federal Pell Grant. The U.S. Department of Education provided specific instructions on the use and distribution method for those funds in a communication released on April 20, 2020.

We are pleased to be able to provide direct emergency aid to our students for unexpected expenses, unmet financial need or 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).

It is our objective to provide these funds to as many currently enrolled Aquinas College students that met the requirements set by the Department of Education as possible. Applications are not required. The College considered several points in determining the individual award amounts, such as undergraduate, graduate, resident, commuter, Federal Pell Grant eligibility, expected family contribution, etc.

In order to receive your disbursement by May 15, please complete the following by May 12, 2020: 1) Enter or update your bank routing and account information on MyAQ. If we do not have your direct deposit information, you will be mailed a check. and 2) Please review your current address listed on MyAQ. For questions or help with entering your direct deposit information or updating your address, please contact [studentaccounts@aquinas.edu](mailto:studentaccounts@aquinas.edu) or call (616) 632-2864 Monday-Thursday between 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Department of Education guidance for your use of these funds is described in the third paragraph of this letter. The Internal Revenue Service has indicated that this grant is not included in your gross income for tax purposes.

We hope this information is helpful to you. We look forward to seeing you back on campus. Best wishes!