Emergency Aid & COVID-19 Guidance

CARES Act Report and Disclosure

Last Updated: 08/18/2020

Texas A&M University acknowledges that it signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement Form assuring the University intends to use at least 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. To meet the reporting requirements outlined in the CARES Act passed by Congress and signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020, Texas A&M University is disclosing the following information:

1. The total funds Texas A&M will receive for distributions to students from the U.S. Department of Education is $19,908,222. This is allocated to College Station, Galveston, and the Health Science Center as follows:
   - College Station: $18,735,148
   - Galveston: $589,407
   - Health Science Center: $583,678

2. To date, the total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is $19,829,317.

3. The estimated total number of students at Texas A&M University eligible to participate in federal aid programs under Section 484 in 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 is:
   - In the 2019-2020 academic year: 40,083
   - In the 2020-2021 academic year: 36,558

4. To date, the total number of students that have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is:
   - For College Station: 15,037
   - For Galveston: 412
   - For Health Science Center: 648

5. The methods used to determine which and how much students receive in Emergency Financial Aid Grants for the Summer are as follows:
   - Block grants offered to College Station and Galveston students enrolled in Summer to assist with rent and food costs
     - For College Station:
       - $600 for non-Pell-eligible undergraduates, graduates, and professional students
       - $1,200 for Pell-eligible undergraduates
     - For Galveston:
       - $900 for non-Pell-eligible undergraduates
       - $1,000 for graduates and professional students
       - $1,500 for Pell-eligible undergraduates
   - The following student groups will be excluded:
     - Those who lived on campus and received a housing refund
     - Those who were not enrolled in Spring 2020
     - Those who were living at home (indicated on the FAFSA)
   - The following student groups will be prioritized:
     - Undergraduates
     - Newly admitted students through the expedited admissions process
     - Continuing Master’s Degree students
     - Unfunded Doctoral students
   - Students may submit the existing Counselor Review Form to Scholarships & Financial Aid for review of extenuating circumstances.
     - This form is available by clicking on “My Financial information has changed” on the Emergency Aid webpage.
   - Students may submit an Emergency Aid Application by visiting the Emergency Aid webpage and clicking on “Emergency Aid Application”. The application is housed in the Financial Aid Portal, and students will list the amount they are requesting and indicate their need category:
     - This includes, but is not limited to:
       - Rent/Utilities
       - Food
       - Medical
       - Childcare
       - Technology/Course materials (to include internet cost)
   - Maximum amounts will be as follows and whether a student qualifies for the maximum will be based on the needs presented in the emergency aid application and whether or not the student has already been awarded the maximum in CARES eligibility:
     - For College Station: $1,700 for Pell-eligible undergraduate students and $1,100 for non-Pell eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students
     - For Galveston: $1,500 for Pell-eligible undergraduate students, $900 for non-Pell eligible undergraduate students, and $1,000 for graduate and professional students
     - For Health Science Center: $1,500 for Pell-eligible undergraduate students and $900 for non-Pell eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students

6. The methods used to determine which and how much students receive in Emergency Financial Aid Grants for the Fall are as follows:
   - Students may submit an Emergency Aid Application by visiting the Emergency Aid webpage and clicking on “Emergency Aid Application”. The application is housed in the Financial Aid Portal, and students will list the amount they are requesting and indicate their need category:
     - This includes, but is not limited to:
       - Rent/Utilities
       - Food
       - Medical
       - Childcare
       - Technology
       - Books/Course Materials
   - Maximum amounts will be as follows and whether a student qualifies for the maximum will be based on the needs presented in the emergency aid application and whether or not the student has already been awarded the maximum in CARES eligibility:
     - For College Station: $1,700 for Pell-eligible undergraduate students and $1,100 for non-Pell eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students
     - For Galveston: $1,500 for Pell-eligible undergraduate students, $900 for non-Pell eligible undergraduate students, and $1,000 for graduate and professional students
     - For Health Science Center: $1,500 for Pell-eligible undergraduate students and $900 for non-Pell eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students
Emergency Aid & CARES Act FAQs

- Where are CARES Act funds coming from?

- What are the eligibility requirements for determining whether I qualify for funding under the CARES Act?

- What steps do I need to complete to determine if I qualify?

- What if I do not meet the eligibility requirements? Is there other emergency aid besides funding from the CARES Act?

- If I qualify for emergency aid funds, either provided by the CARES Act or from institutional sources, how will I receive it?

- How soon will I receive emergency funds if I qualify?

- Are Emergency Aid Grants taxable?

- I see on the emergency aid application I can select past due balance as a need category. Am I able to receive funding from the CARES Act to help with a past due balance owed to Texas A&M?

- If I receive emergency aid, will it negatively impact my existing financial aid package?

- Do I have to repay emergency funding from the CARES Act?

COVID-19 FAQs

- Will my financial aid change now that there is only online instruction?

- What should I keep in mind if I am considering dropping a course or withdrawing?

- Will there be a change to the deadline dates to drop a course?

- The University announced that I have the option to choose Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading for the courses I am currently taking in the Spring 2020 semester. If I decide to choose this option, how will it affect my Satisfactory Academic Progress and financial aid eligibility?

- If I am receiving a multi-year scholarship(s) from Scholarships & Financial Aid and choose Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) grading for the courses I am currently taking in the Spring 2020 semester, what effect(s) would it have on my eligibility for scholarships moving forward?

- Will my Pell Grant be affected by the move to online courses?

- Can I still return to campus and perform work for my Federal Work Study position?

- Where can I find additional information regarding Coronavirus?

- How may I contact the financial aid office if I am needing assistance?