



Education Secretary Betsy DeVos announced on April 9, 2020 the U.S. Department of Education was making immediately available to postsecondary institutions more than \$6.2 billion in emergency grants for students impacted by Coronavirus and authorized the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (“CARES Act”). The approximately \$6.2 billion accounts for the portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (Sec. 18004) that **must** be used to provide emergency financial aid grants directly to students.

The use of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) is governed by Sec. 180049 of the CARES Act and mandates, in part, that:

*“Institutions of higher education shall use no less than 50% of such funds 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, course materials, housing, healthcare, child care and technology expenses”*

The first allocation, which represents 50 percent of an institutions total allocation under the HEERF I, must be used exclusively for student emergency financial aid grants.

Southwest Institute of Healing Arts has applied for and been approved for this grant. We have received a total of **\$517658** to distribute in emergency financial aid grant funds to students.

The estimated total of students eligible for this CARES Act relief grant is approximately 1100.

The total amount as of **3/31/2022** that has been distributed to students is **\$517658** with a total of **1100** checks cut to students.

The 1<sup>st</sup> portion of fund distributed in August 2020 -Southwest Institute of Healing Arts used Pell eligibility and enrollment status to determine eligibility and grant amounts. Those students who were Pell Grant eligible were issued \$500 and those who did not receive Pell Grant funding received \$200.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> portion of funds distributed in November 2021 was made available to ALL active eligible students; regardless of previously qualifying for financial aid, those that have incurred additional cost related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus pandemic. To be eligible for these funds, you will have to have completed a current year FASFA. The amount of each check was \$504.