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The CARES Act Emergency Relief Grant Fund provides emergency financial aid assistance to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus as stipulated by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act was signed into law March 27, 2020.

The Act includes several sources of funds for colleges and universities, including the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund. Five Branches University will receive funds under this CARES Act to provide emergency grants to students for “expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including expenses under a student’s cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, and childcare).”

The U.S. Department of Education does not allow these funds to be used for international students, undocumented students, non-matriculated students or students enrolled in distance only degree programs.

Five Branches University received \$60,086 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students pursuant to signing the required Certification and Agreement with the US Department of Education on July 9th, 2020. The campus assures no less than 50 percent of the total funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act was provided as Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

The University disbursed \$61,793 to students in July 2020 utilizing the whole fund.

The college has identified that 101 Five Branches University students are eligible to participate in the program under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and are therefore eligible to receive an emergency financial aid grant; the CARES Act Grant.

Accordingly, the college has elected to immediately award each of the 101 eligible students a portion of the emergency financial aid grant.

Federal regulations require schools to confirm that a student receiving any CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Grant meets the following requirements:

- Is a US Citizen or an eligible noncitizen
- Has a valid Social Security number
- Is registered with Selective Service, if you’re a male (you must register between the ages of 18 and 25)
- Is not in default on a federal student loan
- Does not owe money on a federal student grant
- Is a currently enrolled student

Full time students enrolled in 12 units or more were selected to receive a full baseline award \$682.80 and part-time students enrolled in 6-11 units were selected to receive half of the baseline award \$341.40