Acknowledgement of Funding and Certification

On December 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed the CRRSA Act (H.R. 133), which provides emergency relief and stimulus funds to organizations and individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Section 314 of the CRRSA Act contains the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), which provides funding to higher education institutions to: 1) defray expenses associated with coronavirus, 2) carry out student support activities authorized by the Higher Education Act (HEA) that address needs related to coronavirus, and 3) provide financial aid grants to students. This quarterly report provides details on the award Midwestern State University (MSU Texas) received to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

MSU Texas agreed to the terms and conditions of the U.S. Department of Education’s Supplemental Grant Funds for Students Agreement by drawing down funds on March 5, 2021 to reimburse the university for student emergency aid disbursements to students.

Total Award

The amount of funds MSU Texas received on January 17, 2021 for distribution of emergency grants to students was $2,206,937.

Funds Distributed to Date

The total amount of the Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section (a)(1) of the CRRSA Act as of March 31, 2021, is $2,236,375. The excess of $29,438 was covered by the CRRSA Act Institutional Portion. This serves as the final report of the CRRSA Act Student Aid portion.

Student Eligibility

The estimated total number of students at MSU Texas eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and meet eligibility to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section (a)(1) of the CRRSA Act is 4,804.

Total Number of Students Who Have Received Funding

The total number of students, as of March 31, 2021, who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under section (a)(1) of the CRRSA Act is 4,804.

Methods Used to Determine Which Students Receive Aid and How Much

MSU Texas has been committed to assisting all eligible students that may have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic to the greatest extent possible with the CRRSA Act funds available. Students were determined to be eligible to receive a CRRSA Act grant if currently enrolled in a program of study during the Spring 2021 term as of February 18, 2021. Per the U.S. Department of Education, international, dual credit, and non-U.S. citizens were not eligible to receive a CRRSA grant. Grant award amounts ranged from $125 to $750 and were determined using a
matrix based on enrollment and to prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants.

Instructions and Guidance Given to Students

All students receiving an automatic CRRSA Act grant were notified by email when the disbursement was made and again when the refund was processed. Additionally, a CRRSA Act webpage was created with background information, answers to frequently asked questions, and a link to the Student Emergency Fund webpage for students with additional needs or who were not eligible to receive a CRRSA Act grant.

The communications included the following:

- General instructions on the purpose and allowable uses of funds,
- Disbursement information for the grant awards,
- Contact information for questions, and
- Additional emergency aid resources for students