

## HEERF (CARES Act Funding) Information Student Aid

SUNY Polytechnic Institute (also referred to as SUNY Poly) acknowledges an authorized representative of the institution has signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

SUNY Poly has received or will receive \$1,064,755 from the Department of Education pursuant to the Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

SUNY Poly has distributed \$173,877.02 thus far under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of October 15, 2020

SUNY Polytechnic Institute has determined that approximately 2,171 students at the institution are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Approximately 131 students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of October 15, 2020. This is a difference of 8 additional students and an additional \$8,600 spent since the 45 Day Report.

SUNY Poly has prioritized awarding of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to its students in the following manner (methodology):

During the first round of CARES (HEERF) awarding, SUNY Polytechnic Institute planned to award Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds in two manners:

- The first method will award a **Base Grant** to eligible students. Students are required to submit an application, in which they will identify areas of eligible expenses and request an award amount. The maximum base grant award amount will be dependent upon response rate and Expected Family Contribution (EFC):
  - Approximately 21% of the allocation will be awarded in the Base Title IV grant category to students with an EFC greater than \$5576
  - Approximately 59% of the allocation will be awarded in the Base +Pell grant category to students with an EFC less than \$5576
  - Approximately 21% of the allocation will be reserved for Supplemental/Future awards.

The percentages are dependent upon student response rates. This ensures students who exhibit higher need will receive a larger HEERF award than students who have demonstrated lower need. Students who request less than the calculated base award

will receive the amount requested. Students whose request is equal to or more than the calculated award will receive the maximum calculated award.

- The second method will award a **Supplemental/Future Grant** to students who demonstrate need above the Base Grant amounts.

Due to a lower than expected application response rate, SUNY Poly increased the maximum Base Award to \$6,195.

SUNY Poly amended its awarding procedures for a second round of CARES awarding in order to disburse remaining funds. During the second round of CARES (HEERF) awarding, SUNY Polytechnic Institute plans to award Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds in the following manner:

- A **Base Grant** to eligible students with an award amount dependent upon Federal Pell Grant eligibility
  - Approximately 30% of the remaining allocation will be awarded in the Base Title IV grant category to students whose EFC is over the threshold for Pell eligibility.
  - Approximately 65% of the remaining allocation will be awarded in the Base grant category to students with an EFC equal to or below the threshold for Pell eligibility.
  - Approximately 5% of the remaining allocation will be reserved for Supplemental/Future awards.

Students were required to certify that they had incurred eligible expenses equal to or greater than the calculated base award amount. Students were also able to request a lesser amount. Students who certified that their expenses were equal to or greater than the calculated maximum base award received the maximum award amount. Students who requested a lesser amount received the amount requested. The percentages are dependent upon student response rates. This ensures students who exhibit higher need will receive a larger HEERF award than students who have demonstrated lower need. The application deadline for the second round of CARES funding is November 1, 2020.

Under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, students received awards ranging from \$0 to \$6,195.

For the first round of awarding an email with a link to the application was sent to potentially eligible students' SUNY Poly email addresses on June 23, 2020. Students may apply to receive emergency funds through a web-based form. Students may have included documentation which will demonstrate how you were affected by the virus and what expenses you will pay with the funds if you wish to be considered for additional money through the Supplemental Grant.

For the second round of awarding, an email with a link to the application was sent to potentially eligible students' SUNY Poly email addresses on October 14, 2020, allowing them to apply to receive emergency funds through a web-based form. An automated phone call was made to these students on October 23, 2020. SUNY Poly followed up with a reminder text broadcast to students on October 29, 2020. A final reminder email was sent to students on October 30, 2020.