



CARES Act Funds for Students

Mitchell Community College received \$696,513 in Federal CARES Act: Higher Education Relief Funds to award **eligible students** whose educational progress was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Mitchell has completed Phase One of its funds distribution plan, mailing checks to **eligible students** on May 26, 2020. Eligibility was determined using the Federal Title IV eligibility guidelines under Section 484 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

CARES Act Frequently Asked Questions

What is the CARES Act and how does it apply to students?

The acronym CARES stands for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security. The CARES Act provides fast and direct economic assistance for American workers and families, small businesses, and preserves jobs for American industries.

College and University students are eligible for CARES Act funding through The Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF). Qualified students may receive HEERF funds to assist with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19.

Which Mitchell Community College students are *qualified* for federal HEERF Funds?

- A curriculum student enrolled in at least one curriculum class on March 13, 2020, for the spring 2020 semester.
- A curriculum student who filed a 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and deemed Title IV eligible under Section 484 of the Higher Education Amendment (HEA) by satisfying the following criteria:
 - enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a degree or certificate program;
 - not enrolled in elementary or secondary school;
 - making satisfactory academic progress;
 - not owe an overpayment on Title IV grants or loans;
 - not be in default on a Title IV loan;
 - filed "as part of the original financial aid application process" a certification that includes:
 - A statement of educational purpose;
 - The student's SSN;
 - be a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible noncitizen;
 - have returned any fraudulently obtained Title IV funds, if convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to charges;
 - not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits;
 - have repaid any Title IV loan overpayment amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits, if obtained inadvertently;

- have Selective Service registration verified
- have Social Security Number verified; and
- not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations.

EXCLUSION: Students enrolled exclusively in an online program on March 13, 2020 are not eligible.

Mitchell's exclusively online programs are: Digital Media Technology and Fire Protection Technology.

Why Didn't I Receive a CARES Act HEERF Award?

- Check WebAdvisor to ensure your updated address is on file. Your check may have been returned to the College.
- Students who did not submit a 2019-2020 FAFSA, are not eligible. **However**, those students are invited to submit a 2019-2020 FAFSA by 6/30/20. Submission of the 2019-2020 FAFSA begins the CARES Act HEERF eligibility process.
- You did submit a 2019-2020 FAFSA, and were not deemed Title IV eligible under Section 484 of the Higher Education Amendment.

How much are the CARES Act HEERF award amounts?

Award amounts are based on a student's estimated family contribution (EFC) and the number of credit hours a student enrolled in during the Spring 2020 term

Students with 0 - 700 EFC (greatest financial need—Pell eligible) Received

- \$650 if enrolled Fulltime
- \$700 if enrolled Less-than-half-time to three quarter time

Students with 701 – 5576 EFC

- \$350 if enrolled Fulltime
- \$400 Less-than-half-time to three quarter time

Students with 5577 – 8500 EFC

- \$250 if enrolled Fulltime
- \$300 Less-than-half-time to three quarter time

Students with 8500 or higher EFC (Not eligible for Pell or State aid)

- \$200 if enrolled Fulltime
- \$250 Less-than-half-time to three quarter time

Full-time = Enrolled in 12+ credit hours

Less-than-half-time to three quarter time = Enrolled in 1 – 11 credit hours

These guidelines will be followed subject to the availability of CARES Act funding.

Who Should I Contact if I Have Additional Questions Regarding CARES Act HEERF Funds?

- For additional information regarding the CARES Act or HEERF Funds distribution, e-mail us at financialaid@mitchellcc.edu