

## U.S. Department of Education CARES Act Certification and Agreement

(Updated the Quarter Ended March 31, 2021)

- 1. West Texas A&M University (WT) signed and returned on April 13, 2020 to the Department of Education (Department) the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that 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 and CRRSA Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. WT was awarded the grant from the Department of Education and has a federal funding period of April 21, 2020 to December 27, 2021.
- 2. The total amount of funds that WT will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to WT's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Student is \$5,764,768.00.
- 3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students as of March 31, 2021 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act has been \$3,444,484. (as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter. It will now be reported quarterly).
- 4. The estimated number of students for the spring, summer, and fall 2020 semesters and the spring 2021 semester at WT who 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 and CRRSA Acts is 25,825.
- 5. **9,122** (The total number) students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES and CRRSA Acts as of March 31, 2021.
- 6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES and CRRSA Acts are as follows:
- a. All students were screened to see if they had a FAFSA on file, were not in a degree program that was 100% online, met Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), were not in not in default or loan discharge, were a degree seeking student (graduates students only) and if males were registered for selective service. If all conditions above were met, they qualified for a CARES Act Emergency Aid Grant. For the second disbursement during the spring semester, the CRRSA Act was launched and these funds had less qualifiers than CARES Act funds and the University did not allow non US citizens eligibility into the grant program based upon guidance at that point.
- b. All qualified students were tiered based upon need and Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and the number of semester credit hours attempted for the spring 2020 semester. Students were eligible to receive \$110 to \$330 based on these factors. This was not applied in the summer semesters. Students were eligible to receive \$200 to \$300 based upon the number of hours taken. During the fall semester, students who were eligible could receive up to \$500 based upon the number of semester credit hours taken. During the spring 2021 semester, students who were eligible could receive up to

\$550 based on the number of semester credit hours taken under CARES Act. A second disbursement was issued through the CRRSA Act for the spring 2021 semester which gave priority to students with need. Eligible students with need received up to \$500 and the remaining student could receive up to \$400 and was based upon semester credit hours taken.

- c. All qualified students are required to fill out an application detailing how COVID-19 caused them to incur expenses related to the disruption of campus operations.
- 7. Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by WT to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants can be found at <a href="https://apps.wtamu.edu/cares-act.php">https://apps.wtamu.edu/cares-act.php</a>.