

**May 28, 2020**

### **Coastal Pines Technical College CARES Act Student Distribution Plan**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump on March 27, 2020, to provide economic relief from COVID-19. The CARES Act, in part, provides funds to colleges through the United States Department of Education (ED), and stipulates that at least 50% of the funds be distributed as emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the pandemic. The College has identified March 13<sup>th</sup> as the date in which campus operations were disrupted as this was the date that Governor Kemp issued the state of emergency for Georgia. Classes were then transitioned into an on-line format.

Coastal Pines Technical College will utilize significant discretion in awarding these emergency assistance grants to eligible students. The only statutory requirements are that students use the funds for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19 and funds can only be disbursed to students who are eligible to receive Title IV funding based on the criteria outlined under Section 484 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA).

### **Student Eligibility Requirements for Emergency Grant Funds**

Students who meet basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid (Title IV) funding can be considered for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). The Office of Financial Aid will use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as well as Admission and Academic criteria to determine student eligibility.

Under guidance provided by the Department of Education, funds can be awarded to students that meet the following conditions:

- Were enrolled on March 13 in spring semester 2020 classes carrying at least one (1) credit hour for a Title IV eligible program that leads to a certificate, diploma, or degree,
- Have a FAFSA for the 2019-2020 award year,
- Have a FAFSA/ISIR with no outstanding verification or financial aid file completion requirements,
- Have a spring eligible Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status,
- Have met the College's admission requirements, and
- Are a U.S. citizen, resident or eligible non-resident.

### **Student Ineligible for Emergency Grant Funds**

Under the guidance provided by the Department of Education, Coastal Pines Technical College has determined the following students are ineligible to receive the emergency assistance grants:

- High School Dual Enrollment Students,
- Students coded as Foreign (includes D.A.C.A.),

- Students coded as Transient,
- Non-credit recipients,
- Students that have actively defaulted student loans, overpayments or other loan eligibility restrictions,
- Students enrolled only in a part of term (POT) that ended prior to March 13, 2020, and
- Students enrolled exclusively in online courses for the spring semester.

### **Disbursement Plan**

The COVID-19 Pandemic has disrupted students in a number of ways and generated financial hardships related to employment, housing, childcare, food, utilities and medical expenses. In order to allow for the immediate release of funding to those students who are already fully eligible while at the same time assisting those students that could feasibly be qualified to complete their eligibility requirements in the future term, the College has determined that the administration of funds will be distributed in two cohorts. In order to prioritize those students with the greatest need, the College will also determine funding levels for the grant based on the total number of on-campus credit hours for which the student was enrolled on March 13, 2020.

**Total Allocation for Students: \$ 879,069**

#### **Cohort 1**

Based on the eligibility requirements listed above, the College has identified 925 students that currently have a completed 2019-2020 FAFSA with no outstanding documents.

Credit Hours	Total Students (Spring)	Award Amount	Total
12 or more credits	324	\$1000	\$324,000
9-11 credits	171	\$750	\$128,250
6-8 credits	274	\$500	\$137,000
1-5 credits	156	\$250	\$39,000
Total	925		\$628,250

Spring Eligible Enrollment as of May 27, 2020:

#### **Cohort 2**

The second cohort of students to receive funding will be those students that submit a FAFSA by June 15 and meet all eligibility requirements listed above by June 30, 2020.

#### **Redistribution of Remaining Emergency Funds**

Any remaining funds available after the second cohort has received their allocation will be distributed to all eligible students in both cohorts in a similar manner based on summer semester credit hour enrollment, though the award amounts will be smaller.