

Student Eligibility

The estimated total number of students at the institution 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.*

2,914

* For the purposes of this report, institutions may determine the number of eligible students based on the number of students for whom the institution has received an Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) plus the number of students who completed an alternative application

Method Used to Determine Students' Eligibility

CARES I:

In order to be considered, in addition to a formal CARES Act Student Application for Emergency Aid, a student must have submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA was used to establish Title IV eligibility and to calculate an Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Preference for funding was given to students whose EFC met the federal Pell Grant or PA State Grant definition of financially needy. (The PA State Grant definition was also applied to non-PA. residents). A percentage of the amount requested by students on the CARES Act application for expenses related to the cost of attendance was awarded in CARES I funding based upon the EFC (i.e. the lower the EFC, the higher the percentage awarded). Caps were established for the amount awarded for each component of the cost of attendance.

Information for Students:

availability of CARES I funding and included a link to the application.

CARES II:

Students were categorized into groups and funding was made available in the following rank order:

Group 1a: Block funding was automatically awarded to students with an Expected Family Contribution of \$0. Full time students in that category were awarded \$2000; part time students were awarded \$1000.

GROUP 1b: Concurrent with the awarding of block funding to students in GROUP1a, students submitting Special Circumstance Forms in which they indicated that the change in family circumstances was directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic were automatically considered for CARES II funding.

(In addition to the automatic block funding, students in Groups 1a and 1b were provided with the opportunity to apply for additional funding through a formal application process).

GROUP 2: Via e-mail, Pell eligible students with an EFC other than 0 were invited to apply for CARES II funding if their family had financial needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. A formal electronic application for funding was made available to the students. The application summarized some of the various expenses eligible for possible reimbursement (elements of the component of the cost of attendance).

GROUP 3: Since funding was not exhausted through awards made to students in Groups 1 and 2, undergraduate students who were not Pell eligible but had an EFC of 15,000 or lower were invited to apply for CARES II funding if their family had financial needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. A formal application was provided to the students at that time.

Information for Students:

-19 site and also sent to students via direct e-mail. Students were also able to contact the Office of Student Financial Services directly at (570) 408-4512 or financialaid@wilkes.edu.

CARE III (HEERF III):

Pell eligible students with an EFC other than 0 were invited to apply for CARES II funding if their family had financial needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. A formal electronic application for funding was made available to the students. The application summarized some of attendance). Caps were established for the amount awarded for each component of the cost of attendance.

Since funding was not exhausted through awards made to students that were Pell eligible, undergraduate students who were not Pell eligible but had an EFC of 15,000 or lower were invited to apply for CARES III funding if their family had financial needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. A formal application was provided to the students at that time.

Information for Students:

-19 site and also sent to students via direct e-mail. Students were also able to contact the Office of Student Financial Services directly at (570) 408-4512 or financialaid@wilkes.edu.