

CARES Act Communication

As required by guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Education on May 6, 2020, Berks Career and Technology Center (“BCTC”) provides this initial report describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to the School.

Student Emergency Relief Funds

1. Berks Career and Technology Center has returned the signed Certification and Agreement for the Education Emergency Relief Funds under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. Berks Career and Technology Center will use no less than 50% of the maximum allocation it receives under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act for Education Emergency Relief Grants to eligible students attending programs approved for Federal Financial Aid.
2. BCTC has received \$17,733 from the Department of Education to use for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
3. BCTC has been reviewing evolving federal guidance and is working to developing an infrastructure to deliver Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible students. As of June 2, 2020, BCTC has distributed \$0 of Emergency Financial Aid Grants under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. It is anticipated that grants will begin to be distributed to eligible students on or around July 9, 2020.
4. BCTC estimates that 22 students, as of June 1, 2020, are eligible to participate in programs under section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act and are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants. Another 8 students have been given the opportunity to file a FAFSA to become eligible to receive emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds Update: As of July 9, 2020, BCTC has distributed \$15,586.39 of the Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, to 20 students. It is anticipated the remaining \$2150.00 will be distributed to remaining eligible students by July 23, 2020. As of August 6, 2020, BCTC has distributed \$17,736.39 of the Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to 22 students.

5. The methods BCTC used to determine which students will receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they will receive under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act are as follows:

Student Eligibility

To receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants, students must be:

1. In an active category of attendance or in a traditional leave of absence as of June 2, 2020;
2. Eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act. We will verify this by confirming the student has a valid ISIR on file.
3. Enrolled in an eligible Title IV program.

Grant Amount – Methodology

To calculate the grant amount:

1. Students indicating special hardship due to the COVID-19 will receive an additional \$200
2. Students with a Zero EFC on the 2019-2020 ISIR will receive an additional \$200
3. After the above is calculated, the remaining funds will be divided among the eligible students based on the student's number of hours effected by the mandatory closing of the school and transfer to online training.
4. The maximum a student will receive is \$1129.00
5. The minimum a student will receive is \$438.00
6. BCTC has provided the following instructions, directions, and guidance to students concerning Emergency Financial Aid Grants: