



CARES Act FAQs - Financial Aid

What is the CARES /Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund provided by the federal government?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from COVID-19. One section of the CARES Act established the Higher Education Emergency Relief fund and sent money to schools to use for emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the pandemic. Funds can be used for food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and childcare expenses.

When will CARES/Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds be available?

BCTC has applied for funding from the federal CARES Act and once we receive that funding from the U.S. Department of Education, we will be able to rapidly start distributing grants to students based on their financial need.

Who is eligible for the CARES/Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds?

Students attending BCTC full-time or part-time (a minimum of 15 hours per week) who meet basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid and who have the greatest financial need can be considered for these funds. The Office of Student Financial Aid will use Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) data to determine your eligibility. If you are eligible to file a FAFSA but have not yet filed for 2019-20, please file a FAFSA at studentaid.gov. School Code 04041300

When can eligible students start applying for Emergency Relief Funds?

Students can start applying by completing the application for HEERF funds. Applications will be accepted until July 1, 2020 or until funds have been exhausted.

If you have any questions, or need help completing the FAFSA, please contact our office at 610-743-7630 or email vaforeman@berkscareer.com