

CARES Act
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)
30-Day Report
As of May 12, 2020

At Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College, we know the COVID-19 pandemic has placed a hardship on many of our students. To assist students who have been impacted financially, OCtech is distributing CARES Act Emergency funding. The CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) provides funding to institutions to award emergency financial aid grants to students who have been impacted by disrupted campus operations due to coronavirus, many of whom are facing financial challenges and/or struggling to make ends meet.

The CARES Act requires all colleges and universities participating in the program to provide access to the following information.

- Orangeburg- Calhoun Technical College (OCtech) signed and returned to the Department of Education the CARES Act Certification and Agreement. This document is an assurance that OCtech has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
- The total amount of funds that the OCtech will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$998,323.
- The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter) is \$411,200.
- 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 is 1,233.
- The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 743.
- The balance not yet awarded will be used to award any students who have not yet confirmed their financial emergency, who may have been unintentionally left out, and to award additional amounts based on documented need.
- OCtech's method of evaluating eligibility was based on the student being Title IV eligible and based off of the students enrollment status and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Enrollment Status	Award
Full-time (12 or more credit hours)	\$600
Three quarter time(9 – 11 credit hours)	\$600
Half-time (6 – 8 credit hours)	\$500
Less than half-time (1 – 5 credit hours)	\$200

- OCtech sent the following email to potentially eligible students concerning CARES Act Emergency funds:

Dear «FIRST__NAME»,

We have determined that you may be eligible to receive a one-time payment from the college to help financially with the transition from face-to-face classes to online. These funds are part of the federal CARES Act to assist college students with expenses related to COVID-19. The virus has placed a hardship on many of us across the country, and as a student, it may have impacted your ability to successfully complete the semester in this new learning environment. The funds are designed to offset cost of education expenses incurred during this time, including technology (computers and/or internet access), transportation, rent/mortgage, course materials (books and/or other supplies) and/or food.

We are attempting to get these funds to eligible students by May 28, 2020, and need you to complete the short [OCtech CARES Act](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCtechCARESAct) survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCtechCARESAct> no later than Tuesday, May 5. The information you provide will help us determine your eligibility and identifies your unexpected financial emergency.

Please note that this is not a loan, and therefore, you are not required to pay the money back. Our hope is that these funds will assist you during this unprecedented time. We wish you the best of luck completing the remainder of the semester.