

CARES Act General Report Update

7/10/2020

The information provided below reflects the only changes made since the original filing of the report on May 29, 2020.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

On Thursday, May 21, 2020, the Department of Education updated HEERF guidance indicating they will not enforce the portion of its guidance that says students must be, or could be, Title IV eligible in order to receive HEERF student emergency grant funds. The Department's May 21, 2020 statement indicated they will not initiate any enforcement action based solely on previous statements because they "lack the force and effect of law."

On June 4, 2020 and June 11, 2020, Millersville University awarded HEERF money to students who may or may not have filed a 2019-2020 FAFSA. On June 4, 2020, due to a change in COVID-19 Housing refunds, 283 students were awarded money from the CARES Relief Fund of varying amounts totaling **\$179,054.38**. On June 11, 2020, 7 students who did not file a 2019-2020 FAFSA and did not have an EFC on which to base their determination of need, were awarded money from the CARES Relief Fund at a fixed amount of **\$500** each, totaling **\$3,500**. These two dates were the only dates on which Millersville University provided funding to students who may not have filed a 2019-2020 FAFSA.

With the exception of the dates of June 4, 2020 and June 11, 2020, on which we did not require a 2019-2020 FAFSA, all eligibility criteria have remained unchanged since our previous report dated May 29, 2020.

KEY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (as dictated by the Department of Education)

- Student must have a complete 2019-2020 FAFSA on file with Millersville University
 - A complete FAFSA means that the SSN, Selective Service, citizenship, and high school completion requirements are satisfied. It was our determination that we do not have the capabilities of verifying this information in any other way.
- Student must be in a Title IV eligible program
 - Federal regulations require that the student be Title IV eligible; this requirement includes that their program be Title IV eligible as well
- Students must be making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- Students must have been enrolled in the Spring 2020 Semester
- Students must not have been in an exclusively online course prior to March 13th, 2020 – the date President Trump declared a national disaster

There are additional criteria that students must meet, however the information required on the FAFSA satisfies any remaining eligibility criteria.

On June 17, 2020, the Department of Education released its interim final rule reestablishing that a student must be Title IV eligible to receive funding from HEERF, thus requiring a 2019-2020 FAFSA on file with Millersville University.

Revised July 10, 2020

APPLICATION SPECIFICS

APPLICATION SIGN-IN & ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

- Once a student clicks on the link to apply, they will be brought to a sign-in page, using their MU username and password.
- The following checks occur right at sign in:
 - *Contact Information:*
 - *Name*
 - *MU ID #*
 - *Email address*
 - *Mailing address*
 - *Phone Number*
 - *Enrollment Status for Spring 2020 as of March 13, 2020*
 - *Indicator for completion status of 2019-2020 FAFSA*
 - *Satisfactory Academic Progress status*
 - *Class Level/Credits Earned*
 - *Program Enrolled (must be Title IV eligible)*

While the data captured at sign-in remains unchanged, a students' ability to apply for the CARES Relief Fund was loosened due to the number of changes in federal guidance. As a result, manual checks are done to ensure that the student meets all eligibility requirements listed in the Student Eligibility section.

As of July 10, 2020, 85 students have had their applications denied after manual review.