

# CARES Act Funding Report

Updated July 7, 2020

The Dominican House of Studies signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CARES Act on July 7, 2020. The Dominican House of Studies 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.

As of September 9th, 2020:

- The total amount of funds that Dominican House of Studies will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to its Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students: **\$15,276.**
- 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: **\$30,552.**
- The estimated total number of students at the Dominican House of Studies 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: **60.**
- The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act: **<10.**

Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Method(s) used to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act:

The Dominican House of Studies created an application process that requires students to identify both the amount of funding requested and a detailed rationale for their request; this application process was emailed to each eligible students. Applicable student data (i.e. student status, student identification number, international status, FERPA on file, degree program type, etc.) from our student information system was matched with each student applicant to determine qualified students. Qualified students were rank ordered (highest to lowest) based upon federal unmet need and expected family contributions. Approved students were awarded the amount that they requested up to a limit of \$5,000.

*On July 7, 2020, all currently eligible enrolled Dominican House of Studies Degree Program students were sent the following instructions via email:*

Dear (*Name*)

We are in the process of obtaining Heerf Cares Act grant funding for our eligible students living expenses. In order for students to be eligible they must meet the following requirements:

- A FAFSA completed. Students may apply at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- An appeal letter expressing your need to cover living expenses. This will serve as your application. This should be emailed to [treasurer@dhs.edu](mailto:treasurer@dhs.edu) with the header **Cares Act Grant Request**.
- This grant is only to assist you in covering some of your cost of attendance for living expenses
- A budget for each student who applies will be necessary and done on an individual basis with the Director of Financial Aid (Shauna Roye).
- Once approved you will need to provide additional information for disbursement via direct deposit.

The deadline to apply was July 31, 2020.

These grants are intended to lessen financial challenges resulting from the current health crisis including travel assistance, emergency medical expenses, expenses related to student virtual learning, overdue utility bills, housing assistance, food insecurity, and more. This funding is not intended to replace or supplement existing financial aid and does not have to be repaid.

All graduate students enrolled in campus-based programs who are experiencing unexpected financial hardship resulting from the coronavirus pandemic may apply.

We will work to address demonstrated needs to the extent funds are available. Priority will be given to students with the highest demonstrated financial need. Students in need of financial assistance should follow the stated guidelines above. Please provide as much detail regarding your circumstances as possible. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the available funds have been distributed.

Approved applications will have funds direct deposited to their bank accounts for immediate refund. In order to receive the refund quickly, applicants should ensure that they have direct deposit established with the treasurer.

Eligibility will be determined from the FAFSA. Please contact the [treasurer@dhs.edu](mailto:treasurer@dhs.edu) for questions about the CARES Act grant program.