

Lock Haven University
Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act
(CRRSAA) Financial Aid Grants to Students
Decision Memo (Position Paper)
January 2021

Background

On December 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act was signed into law, resulting in an allocation of funding to Lock Haven University in the amount of \$1,697,000 to be used for emergency financial aid grants to students. All financial aid grants to students must be disbursed within one year of receiving funds (Grant Award Notification dated January 17, 2021).

Federal guidance provides significant discretion on how to award the emergency financial aid grants to students. The guidance clearly articulates that institutions are expected to prioritize students with exceptional need. These grants may be used for any component of a student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care or child care. Unlike the CARES Act funding, CRRSAA funds can be applied directly to a student's university bill as long as affirmative confirmation has been received from that student. Funds may also be used for pre-award costs incurred on or after December 27, 2020, the date of the enactment of the CRRSAA.

Reporting requirements have not been provided at this time.

Decision/Position

After significant conversation with our leadership team, the university plans to award the majority of funding within the next 30 days as outlined in the tables below (figures are estimates):

EFC Range	UGRD	UGRD Award	UGRD Total Awarded
0	382	\$1,000	\$382,000
\$1-\$35,000	1,238	\$750	\$928,500

EFC Range	GRAD	GRAD Award	GRAD Total Awarded
0	179	\$1,000	\$179,000
\$1-\$35,000	155	\$750	\$116,250

Awarding procedures

Students will be identified via a query that will separate them by Estimated Family EFC. The EFC cut off for consideration is \$35,000. We expect to upload each list of students and assign the appropriate award amount.

CARES Act emergency financial aid grant funding disbursed immediately: \$1,605,750 or 94.6% of the emergency financial aid grant funding awarded to the university.

The remaining funding (\$91,250) will be set aside for special conditions. These funds will be distributed via an application process which will be reviewed by the Financial Aid office. Funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis dependent on the nature of the exceptional circumstances due to COVID-19.

The university intends to post a CRRSA Act Financial Aid Grant FAQ to its webpage, specifically the Financial Aid section of the site.