

CARES ACT HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Lackawanna College acknowledges that it has signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and the Assurance that Lackawanna College has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 1800(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

The total amount of funds that the institution has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants is \$942,674.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is \$814,697.16.

The estimated total number of students at Lackawanna College eligible to participate in the programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and therefore eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 2,034.

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 1,451.

The method used to determine distribution of funds was to identify groups based on need. We identified that the vast majority of Lackawanna students are PELL grant eligible and that they would be given an amount based on calculation of need. We also recognize that students not eligible for PELL, but still eligible for Title IV funding, do not always receive family support, therefore all Title IV eligible students who filed a FAFSA should receive some funds from the grant. We then identified costs associated with increased expenses due to the COVID 19 disruption in each allowed category. We identified needs for all resident students and all commuter students. This resulted in a \$5 difference for resident and commuter students eligible, so we decided to provide the same amount (\$545) to all students who are eligible. This amount was determined to be the minimum amount of expense increase due to the COVID 19 disruption. We also recognize that some students have a greater need and had additional costs due to the transition. We provided an application for eligible students to apply for additional grant money that did not cover all of their additional expenses. The students must document their reasons for additional expenditures and the eligible categories in which they would be applied. The CARES Act Relief Fund Task Force will review all submitted applications and provide additional grants for those seeking eligible funds until the remaining funds are exhausted. To receive laptop reimbursement, the following guidelines apply: 1. Student must be enrolled at The College; 2. Laptop must be purchased after March 16th for student enrolled in the Spring 2020 semester and after May 8th for student enrolled in the Fall 2020 semester; 3. Student must have a FAFSA on file or provide required documentation of eligibility; 4. Student cannot be enrolled in a fully online program or plan to be online only. Student can be enrolled in all online courses for Fall 2020 due to COVID-19 and inability to attend in-person classes; and 5. Student must provide a receipt and will be reimbursed up to \$375 for technology. All applications are reviewed for accuracy and receipts are reviewed prior to approval.

Updated: October 10, 2021

Lackawanna College has received funding through the CARES Act Emergency Relief Grant Fund. Funding will be used to provide emergency grants to college students whose lives and education continue to be affected by the coronavirus outbreak in the spring 2021 semester.

Current Pell Grant eligible students can apply for CARES Act funds via the portal. All students that are eligible will find the link when they are signed into the portal in the message section at the top of the page. The maximum amount will be determined once the application closes on March. The minimum amount will be \$120. Students may elect to pick up the check, have the check mailed to their home, or apply it to their balance.

Eligible students will receive an email on March 1, 2021, in regards to the application. The application will be open through March 14th and funds will be distributed by the end of the month. Further questions should be sent to emergencyfund@lackawanna.edu.