

HEERF I (CARES) Student Emergency Grant

Herkimer County Community College has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and 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 College identified an estimated 1,015 potential students eligible to apply to receive CARES Act emergency grants.

Student Eligibility

Eligible Herkimer College students included those who attended the Spring 2020 semester and met all the following:

- Must be a US citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Must be a matriculated student in good academic standing and enrolled in credit-bearing courses for the Spring 2020 semester
- Must have a valid 2019/2020 or 2020/2021 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file
- Must be eligible for Title IV financial aid

Allowable Expenses

HEERF I student aid funds will help students manage expenses resulting from the disruption of campus operations caused by the pandemic. Eligible expenses include the cost of food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care.

Application Process

Students must submit the HerkCARES application with all required information. Applications are reviewed by the HerkCARES committee to ensure eligibility requirements have been met.

As of November 18, 2020, Herkimer County Community College expended the entire grant funding from the CARES Act. The College is no longer accepting applications for this grant program.

Determination of Award Amounts

Based upon the student's request for funding, the College will make an initial HerkCARES grant payment based on the institution's estimates based on expected applications and total funding availability. Priority of these emergency grants will be awarded using the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as calculated on the FAFSA according to the following matrix:

Tier 1 EFC = 0

Tier 2 EFC = 1 – 5576

Tier 3 EFC > 5576

Tier 4 Enhanced Grants

After the priority deadline, funding will be reviewed and additional supplemental awards may be allocated based on the student's needs and remaining funds available.

Distribution of Funds

HEERF I funds will be applied directly to the student's semester billing account. The entire amount will then be refunded to the student by check, regardless of the account balance.