

**Vassar College  
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund  
Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students September 2020 Fund Report**

Vassar College acknowledges that it signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”) Certification and Agreement, and affirms that the institution used no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, totaling \$1,835,621, to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

The amount of funds that the institution received for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for students from the Department pursuant to the Certification and Agreement is \$917,811.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of May 22, 2020 was \$917,839. Additional reports regularly update this information, as required.

The total number of students at Vassar College 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 was 1,589.

The total number of students who received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of May 22, 2020 was 482.

The method(s) used by Vassar College to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is as follows:

Vassar College’s Office of Student Financial Services provided a list based on who had completed a FAFSA for the 2019-2020 academic year and successfully satisfied all requirements that apply to being Title IV eligible. A total of 1,589 students were identified as meeting these criteria and being actively enrolled for the Spring 2020 semester. The College surveyed eligible students who were enrolled for Spring Term 2020 at the time of course disruption due to the Coronavirus via an email and linked application in order to determine the nature of student need.

In an acknowledgement of diverse student experiences/context and knowing our student population, we included an option that allowed students to indicate they did not need to apply for the emergency grant and would instead leave it in the pool of funds that would be distributed to those in greater need. We developed a rubric to review applications and assigned to high, medium or low priority in terms of need, and were also guided by the following:

1. Does the ask/need match the purpose for funds as per federal guidelines?
2. What is the noted need?
3. What is the family total income?

The application and guidance provided to students by Vassar College concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants is available below.

Questions about this Fund Report can be directed to Gary F. Hohenberger, Associate VP, Foundation & Government Relations, and Director for Grants Development at [gahohenberger@vassar.edu](mailto:gahohenberger@vassar.edu).

# CARES Act Student Emergency Aid Grant Application - Student Assistance Due to COVID-19 / Due by Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 5pm.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides direct emergency cash grants to students for the period of April/May. The federal government has defined eligibility for this grant as any student who can participate in Title IV programming, which includes those who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, have a valid Social Security number, are registered with Selective Service (if the student is male), and have submitted a FAFSA, and who have been financially affected by COVID-19. The individual cash grant amount to each student will be based on the number of applications received and the funds available. Please submit this application by Wednesday, May 6th, 2020 at 5pm. We expect to send cash grants to students before the end of May.

\* Required

1. Email address \*

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2. Full Name \*

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3. 999# \*

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4. Class Year \*

Mark only one oval.

2020

2021

2022

2023

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

5. How have you specifically been impacted by the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19? \*

Check all that apply.

Housing

Food

Healthcare

Relocation

Technology

Other (Expenses that do not fit any of the above)

6. What additional information do you feel is pertinent for us to consider regarding how you have been financially impacted in April/May due to COVID-19? \*

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7. I do NOT need a CARES grant and would like to leave it in the pool of funds that will be distributed to other students who are in need.

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

8. I certify that the information submitted in this application is true and correct. \*

*Check all that apply.*

Yes

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