

Ottawa University’s Report on Funds Received Under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”) to Provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

The Corona Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act or the “Act”), was signed into law by the President on March 27, 2020. Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020). This Act authorizes the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to provide funds to institutions of higher education, including Ottawa University, in response to the impact of COVID-19. Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires institutions to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received from Section 18004(a)(1) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19. Further, Section 18004(e) of the CARES Act, directs institutions receiving funds under Section 18004(c) to submit a report to the Secretary of Education describing the use of funds distributed under this Act. The information not only fulfills the reporting requirement, but it is also our intent to inform our university community as to the use of these funds.

The following information must be reported 30 days after the institution receives the money and 45 days thereafter:

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or 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;

On April 13, 2020, Ottawa University signed and returned to the Department of Education the required Certification and Agreement assuring that OU intended 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 U.S. Department of Education provided OU with an electronically signed Grant Award Notification on April 27, 2020.

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Student;

The total amount of the funds that Ottawa University received from the Department pursuant to the Certification and Agreement (for) Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$833,817.

3. 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 (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter);

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of this report is \$833,817.

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution 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;

The estimated total number of students at Ottawa University 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 is 1,102.

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

As of May 15, 2020, Ottawa University has sent funds to a total of 1,102 students pursuant to Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

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

Based on student eligibility, Expected Family Contribution, and guidelines used to assess disruption in Spring 2020 related to factors such as room and board related expenses, the University first determined which students would receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and then how much each would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. This was done in accordance with the U.S. Department of Education directive to higher educational institutions to provide grants to students with the greatest financial need in the timeliest way possible. As required by the Department, the University was limited to relief funds only for Title IV-eligible students and only those taking on-ground courses exclusively. Rather than forcing students to go through a new, lengthy, and special application process and in order to get the funds to them as expeditiously as possible as directed by the Department, the University chose to focus on students with the greatest demonstrated need as indicated through the FAFSA on file. Those with an Expected Family

Contribution up to \$30,000 were selected. These students received grants up to \$300. Additional amounts were added for these students and others affected by the disruption based on a formula tied to the room and board costs incurred by the student. These ranged from \$300 to \$500 for meals and an additional \$500 for room costs.

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

Letters were mailed with each grant encouraging students to use the grant in a way that would best benefit their particular need so that their education would not be negatively impacted by the effects of the pandemic.