

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) was signed by the President on December 27, 2020 and gives to the U.S. Department of Education approximately \$22.7 billion to distribute to institutions of higher education in order to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). The CRRSAA requires that the institution provide the same amount in financial aid grants to students that it was required under the original Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Student Aid Portion award. Students cannot apply for assistance directly from the U.S. Department of Education. Rather, institutions have the responsibility of determining how the grants will be distributed to students, how the amount of each student grant is calculated, and the development of any instructions or directions that are provided to students about the grant.

As a grant recipient under the CARES Act, the university executed and returned to the Department of Education a Funding Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students (Certification). This Certification affirmed Thomas University's commitment to use no less than 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a) (1) of the CARES Act for Emergency Financial Aid Grants. The total amount of funds received pursuant to the Certification was \$187,765. The final report related to those CARES Act funds is located on the university's web site.

The funds provided to the university through the CRRSAA expressly for Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$187,765 and equals the amount provided from the CARES Act. The Certification filed under the CARES Act referred to above was satisfactory for the university to accept funds allocated by the CRRSAA. The only stipulation is that a draw upon those CRRSAA funds had to occur within 90 days of the award. The university did draw upon those funds within that 90-day time frame to satisfy that requirement.

All \$187,765 was distributed to 123 students in the second quarter as required. Those students eligible to participate in the CRRSAA program for purposes of this calculation was 494. This total excluded international students, but did include students enrolled exclusively in online programs.

Thomas University used an application process for the students in this population to affirm to the university that they were financially adversely affected by the COVID-19 disruptions. The university began by identifying all students that were Pell-eligible with an outstanding balance at April 2, 2021. Students who had a third-party payer for their accounts were excluded. Included in the eligible population were online students as well. We then requested the completion of a survey by all identified students. Students who through the survey identified as financially needy were awarded the grant. Awards for students who were not adversely affected by COVID were returned to the pool for reallocation. These funds were then awarded to students who were not Pell-eligible, but were deemed financially needy through the survey process above.

The Department of Education requires that this communication pertaining to the award proceeds be updated every 45 days after the initial report. This report is the final report.