

Montcalm Community College

Use of CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

FINAL Report – March 20, 2023

On April 20, 2020, Montcalm Community College (MCC) signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). On May 29, 2020, MCC received its student portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), made available through Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

MCC agreed to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Aid Grants to students. MCC was allocated a total of \$5,953,726 for direct student grants and institutional support.

This serves as MCC's report on Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, as of December 31, 2022, and covers all HEERF fund expenditures for Section 18004(1)(1) Student Portion funds:

- Total amount distributed to students prior to January 1, 2022: \$2,500,627
- Total number of students who have received HEERF Grants prior to January 1, 2022: 1,260
- No HEERF Grants were distributed during the 2022 calendar year due to the total allocated Student Portion funds being fully spent by December 31, 2021.

MCC's method for determining which students received HEERF and how much they received was based on the CARES Act and subsequent guidance provided by the Secretary of Education ([CARES Act: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund](#)).

MCC students were notified about the availability of these Emergency Financial Aid Grants and eligibility requirements via email notifications, postal letter, and on the MCC website under the Student Information button at www.montcalm.edu/coronavirus.

Eligibility for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for MCC students was based on semester enrollment and Pell Grant eligibility. The MCC CARES Act Committee developed the following guidelines for determining the Emergency Financial Aid Grant amounts:

- Full-Time (12 or more credits) Pell Grant Eligible Students = \$1,000
- Part-Time (1-11 credits) Pell Grant Eligible Students = \$750
- All Other Enrolled Students = \$500

All MCC students who had a 2021-2022 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with the College as of January 15, 2022, were sent email notification regarding the Professional Judgement Appeal process, eligibility requirements, and instructions.

All MCC students who have a 2022-2023 FAFSA on file with the College are also being sent email notification regarding the Professional Judgement Appeal process, eligibility requirements, and instructions.