

## **Southwest Tech Emergency Financial Aid Grant**

Southwest Wisconsin Technical College students impacted by COVID-19 can receive emergency assistance through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) II from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSSA). Funding can be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to Coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care.

Institutions who receive HEERF II funds must prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. To identify students with exceptional need, as required in Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund regulations, Southwest Tech Financial Aid uses the Pell Grant eligibility as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### **Who will receive funds?**

**Pell eligible student:** All students who completed the FAFSA and are Pell Grant eligible will receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant automatically if they meet the following criteria at the time of disbursement:

- Enrolled in a financial aid eligible program
- Enrolled in at least six credits as of the date the funds are disbursed.
- Be a U.S citizen or national, a permanent resident, or an eligible noncitizen

Grant amounts are as follows:

- 12 semester credits or more – \$250
- 6 - 11 semester credits – \$125

**Non-Pell Grant eligible, Non-FAFSA filing or Pell Grant students with exceptional need:** Non-Pell Grant eligible and non-FAFSA filing students who are experiencing an emergency related situation due to the coronavirus can apply for up to \$500 by completing the Emergency Financial Aid Grant application. Additionally, Pell Grant students with additional need can apply for funds through the application process. Emergency Financial Aid Grant applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis each semester.

Students applying through the application process must meet the following criteria at the time of disbursement:

- Accepted to and enrolled (taking at least one credit) in a financial aid eligible program
- Be a U.S citizen or national, a permanent resident, or an eligible noncitizen

Although HEERF II funds do not require a FAFSA application, we are required to verify citizenship status under the 1996 Welfare Reform Act, so non-FAFSA filing students must self-certify citizenship.

### **How much funding can I receive each semester?**

The Emergency Financial Aid Grant is available to support students through the Fall 2021 semester or until the funding is depleted. The following award limits have been established:

- Pell Grant eligible students can receive a maximum of \$750.00 per semester.
- Non-Pell Grant eligible and non-FAFSA filing students can receive a maximum of \$500.00 per semester.

## **Timeframe and Process for Awarding**

### **Pell eligible student**

Southwest Tech Financial Aid staff will post an Emergency Financial Aid Grant in the My Financial Aid section of the MySWTC Portal. Once awards are loaded, students will be sent an email to notify them of the award the disbursement date.

### **Non-Pell Grant eligible, Non-FAFSA filing or Pell Grant students with exceptional need:**

If you are a not Pell Grant eligible, did not file a FAFSA or are a Pell Grant student with exceptional need, you can complete the Emergency Financial Aid Grant application located under the announcement section of your [MySWTC Portal](#).

Southwest Tech Financial Aid staff will review applications within 48 business hours, and notification of approval or denial will be communicated with the student via their MySWTC student email.

Approved applications will be paid on the following schedule\*:

- Applications approved by 3:00 PM (CST) Thursday – Monday will be paid on Tuesday.
- Applications approved by 3:00 PM (CST) Tuesday – Wednesday will be paid on Thursday.

\*The first payment will be on 3.9.21.

### **Direct questions to Financial Aid**

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