

# Pierpont Community and Technical College

## CARES ACT Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting

### Emergency Financial Aid to Students

Statutory Authority: Section 18004 (e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES ACT), Pub. L. No 116-136, 134 Stat. 281. Section 1004(a)(1) requires the following information to be made available in a format and location that is easily accessible to the public within 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation of funds from the Department of Education and then within 10 days of the end of each quarter of the year.

#### Date of Award Notice and Amount of Award

- April 25, 2020 – Pierpont Community & Technical College received \$577,399 for Emergency Financial Aid grants to students.
- January 17, 2021 – Pierpont Community & Technical College received \$577,399 for Emergency Financial Aid grants to students.
- May 14, 2021 – Pierpont Community & Technical College received \$2,381,167 for Emergency Financial Aid grants to students.

**Total amount received by Pierpont Community & Technical College as of June 30, 2021: \$3,535,965**

#### Total CARES Act Funding Awarded to Students

For the Quarter Ended	Awards to Students	Number of Students Receiving Awards
June 30, 2020	141,350.00	162
September 30, 2020	60,900.00	107
December 31, 2020	368,049.00	363
March 31, 2021	462,384.48	419
June 30, 2021	29,976.88	23
<b>Cumulative at March 31, 2021</b>	<b>1,062,660.36</b>	

#### Award: April 25, 2020

As of April 25, 2020, Pierpont Community & Technical College received a total of \$1,154,797 in CARES Act funding pursuant to the Institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. This total amount included the institutional and student awards. As required, the institution distributed 50% (\$577,399) directly to students.

- Total number of eligible students – 988 students
- Total number of students receiving an award – 508 students
- Total award amount: \$570,299
- Determination of Eligibility:

- Pierpont Community and Technical College determined that any student who met the eligibility requirements under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and who were not enrolled in 100% online programs prior to March 27, 2020 were financially impacted by the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. Eligibility for Section 484 of Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 was determined by requiring all students to complete a 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 FAFSA and by a review of each student's compliance with Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Students who failed to complete a FAFSA or comply with SAP were deemed to be ineligible to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant.
  - College officials identified the following campus provided resources that were lost during the disruption of services caused by the Coronavirus:
    - Under normal operating conditions, the Institution provides all students with access to computer labs, printers, photocopiers, and workstations throughout all locations.
    - The Institution provides students who have food security issues access to our on-site student food pantry which is not available during campus closure.
    - Under normal operating conditions, the Institution provides all students with access to internet service throughout all locations.
    - The Institution offers student support and mental health support services on our campuses. We also have a partnership with MVA Clinics for student healthcare. The significant changes caused by the Coronavirus and the related disruption to our campuses caused heightened anxiety and stress which manifested itself in a greater need for assistance and support.
  - In addition to the campus provided resources above, the Institution is also taking into consideration, per the Ed guidance we've received, the following:
    - Housing (Rent/Mortgage Assistance)
    - Utility Bills
    - Childcare
  - The Institution developed an online request form for students who felt they had a financial need caused by disruption of classes that addressed technology issues, food insecurity, utility bills, including but not limited to internet service, housing (rent/mortgage assistance), medical expenses, course materials, and childcare. The request form is available on our website. Students were notified about the opportunity, including email, faculty announcements, & phone calls.
  - Nearly all students who were attending campus-based courses utilize computer hardware, WIFI, photocopiers, software, and printers provided at the campuses. When the Coronavirus forced the closing of our campuses, these resources were no longer available to students. Moving to a 100% online format meant that students had no choice but to obtain these resources on their own. The Institution believes that this factor alone qualifies any student who meets the eligibility requirements under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and who were not previously enrolled in 100% online majors to receive

an allocation to cover the cost of acquiring hardware (computers, printers, or other required electronic devices) and to help pay for WIFI access through DSL internet or “hot spot” technology. This allocation amount has not been determined at this time as all students who have completed a request form will be reviewed first and then the remaining funds will be given to students who did not complete a request once they confirm they are in need of assistance.

- Before any Emergency Financial Aid Grants were distributed, each student’s eligibility was confirmed by the Office of Financial Aid.
  - The Institution established a separate refund code to track all CARES’ Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to ensure that funds were not diverted to pay any balances due to the Institution for unpaid tuition or fees. Once the disbursements were processed, checks were mailed via US mail to students’ current mailing address on file.
- Type of Communication - Communication is being sent to all students via their secure institutional email account. Students who did not complete a request form were not notified specifically that they did not qualify for funds. They will be reviewed at a later time and communication will be sent at that time. Students who completed a request form but were not eligible, were sent a brief notification that included the reason that they did not qualify (online degree program, not making satisfactory academic progress, etc.). Students who were awarded, are being asked to confirm their request by either completing a “Confirmation Statement” and returning to Office of Financial Aid or by responding to the internal email communication stating that they agree and confirm their request. The awarded student is then sent the following communication via US mail with a check enclosed:

Dear Student:

Your request for CARES Act Emergency Funds has been reviewed and processed. Enclosed you will find a check made payable to you. Per the Department of Education, these funds are to be used for one or more of the following items:

- Food
- Housing
- Childcare
- Technology
- Utilities
- Medical Expenses
- Course Materials

This is a federal grant and does not need to be repaid at any time. It does not affect any financial aid you have received for this current semester and is not considered income. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 304-367-4907.

Sincerely,  
Pierpont Student Services”

## **Award: January 17, 2021**

As of January 17, 2021, Pierpont Community & Technical College received an additional \$577,399 in CARES Act funding pursuant to the Institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. This total was required to be distributed directly to students.

### **Spring 2021 Award**

- Total number of eligible students – 445
- Total number of students receiving an award – 445
- Total Amount Awarded: \$481,566
  - \$7,100 was used to complete the 1<sup>st</sup> award
  - \$474,466 was used of 2<sup>nd</sup> award for spring 2021
- Spring 2021 Determination of Eligibility:
  - Pierpont Community and Technical College determined that any student who met the eligibility requirements under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and who were not enrolled in 100% online programs as of February 26, 2021 were financially impacted by the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. Eligibility for Section 484 of Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 was determined by requiring all students to complete a 2020-2021 FAFSA and by a review of each student's compliance with Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Students who failed to complete a FAFSA or comply with SAP were deemed to be ineligible to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant.
    - College officials identified the following campus provided resources that were lost during the disruption of services caused by the Coronavirus:
      - Under normal operating conditions, the Institution provides all students with access to computer labs, printers, photocopiers, and workstations throughout all locations.
      - The Institution provides students who have food security issues access to our on-site student food pantry which is not available during campus closure.
      - Under normal operating conditions, the Institution provides all students with access to internet service throughout all locations.
      - The Institution offers student support and mental health support services on our campuses. We also have a partnership with MVA Clinics for student healthcare. The significant changes caused by the Coronavirus and the related disruption to our campuses caused heightened anxiety and stress which manifested itself in a greater need for assistance and support.
    - In addition to the campus provided resources above, the Institution is also taking into consideration, per the Ed guidance we've received, the following:
      - Housing (Rent/Mortgage Assistance)
      - Utility Bills
      - Childcare
    - The Institution developed an online request form for students who felt they had a financial need caused by disruption of classes that addressed technology

issues, food insecurity, utility bills, including but not limited to internet service, housing (rent/mortgage assistance), medical expenses, course materials, and childcare. The request form is available on our website. Students were notified about the opportunity in many ways including email, faculty announcements, and phone calls.

- Nearly all students who were attending campus-based courses utilize computer hardware, WIFI, photocopiers, software, and printers provided at the campuses. When the Coronavirus forced the closing of our campuses, these resources were no longer available to students. Moving to a 100% online format meant that students had no choice but to obtain these resources on their own. The Institution believes that this factor alone qualifies any student who meets the eligibility requirements under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and who were not previously enrolled in 100% online majors to receive an allocation to cover the cost of acquiring hardware (computers, printers, or other required electronic devices) and to help pay for WIFI access through DSL internet or “hot spot” technology. This allocation amount has not been determined at this time as all students who have completed a request form will be reviewed first and then the remaining funds will be given to students who did not complete a request once they confirm they are in need of assistance.
  - Before any Emergency Financial Aid Grants were distributed, each student’s eligibility was confirmed by the Office of Financial Aid.
  - The Institution established a separate refund code to track all CARES’ Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to ensure that funds were not diverted to pay any balances due to the Institution for unpaid tuition or fees. Once the disbursements were processed, checks were mailed via US mail to students’ current mailing address on file.
- Type of Communication - Communication is being sent to all students via their secure institutional email account. Students who did not complete a request form were not notified specifically that they did not qualify for funds. They will be reviewed later and communication will be sent at that time. Students who completed a request form but were not eligible, were sent a brief notification that included the reason that they did not qualify (online degree program, not making satisfactory academic progress, etc.). Students who were awarded, are being asked to confirm their request by either completing a “Confirmation Statement” and returning to Office of Financial Aid or by responding to the internal email communication stating that they agree and confirm their request. The awarded student is then sent the following communication via US mail with a check enclosed:

Dear Student:

Your request for CARES Act Emergency Funds has been reviewed and processed. Enclosed you will find a check made payable to you. Per the Department of Education, these funds are to be used for one or more of the following items:

- Food

- Housing
- Childcare
- Technology
- Utilities
- Medical Expenses
- Course Materials

This is a federal grant and does not need to be repaid at any time. It does not affect any financial aid you have received for this current semester and is not considered income.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 304-367-4907.

Sincerely,

Pierpont Student Services

### **Award: May 14, 2021**

As of May 14, 2021, Pierpont Community & Technical College received an additional \$2,381,167 in CARES Act funding pursuant to the Institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. This total amount was required to be distributed directly to students.

- Total number of eligible students – To Be Determined
- Total number of students receiving an award – To Be Determined
- Determination of Eligibility: To Be Determined
- Type of Communication: To Be Determined