

Oconee Fall Line Technical College

CARES Act Distribution Plan

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund-IHE/Student Aid provides funding to institutions to provide emergency financial aid grants to students whose lives have been disrupted. Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFTC) has been allocated \$1,152,438 in funding through the federal (CARES) Act. The Act requires that half of these dollars (\$576,219) go directly to students to cover emergency expenses arising from the disruption in campus operations. In accordance with the state of emergency order issued by Governor Kemp, OFTC identified March 13, 2020 as the time of course disruption due to the Coronavirus.

Oconee Fall Line Technical College designee signed the certification and agreement form on April 21 2020. The student funding was available on April 24, 2020. OFTC will utilize significant discretion on awarding these emergency assistance grants to eligible students. The only statutory requirements are that students use the funds for expense related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19 and students are eligible to receive Title IV funding based on the criteria outlined under Section 484 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA).

Spring 2020 Enrollment Snapshot

Total Enrollment = 1,788
Dual Enrollment = 352
Transient Students = 2
100% Online Students = 374

Student Eligibility Requirements for CARES Act Funds

Students who meet basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid (Title IV) funding can be considered for the Higher Education Emergency Relief (HEERF). The Office of Financial Aid will use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as well as Admission and Academic criteria to determine student eligibility.

Under the guidance provided by the Department of Education, funds can be awarded to students that meet the following conditions:

- Completed 2019-2020 FAFSA Application (with all verifications cleared and completed)
- U.S. Citizenship or Eligible Noncitizen
- Has a FAFSA/ISIR with no outstanding verification requirements
- Registered with Selective Service (males)
- Enrolled in at least one (1) credit hour in a program that leads to a certificate, diploma, or degree.

- Enrolled for Spring Term 202014 for at least one (1) in person class for Spring Term 202014 prior to March 13, 2020
- Maintained Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for Spring Term 202014 or has an approved academic recovery plan
- Has met the college's admission requirements; HS, GED or equivalency (FAFSA self-certify or ATB).

Students Ineligible for CARE Acts Funds

- Dual Enrolled (HS) Students
- Transient Students
- DACA Students
- Foreign Students
- Non-credit recipients
- Students who are defaulted on student loans, overpayments, or other loan Restrictions
- Students that were enrolled only in a part-of-term that ended prior to March 13, 2020
- Students enrolled exclusively in distance education for the spring semester

Disbursement Plan Model

The COVID-19 Pandemic has disrupted students in a number of ways generating financial hardships related to employment, housing, childcare, food, utilities, and medical expenses. To provide our eligible spring students the available financial assistance Oconee Fall Line Technical College will award students emergency aid grants based on the following distribution formula.

Total Allocation for Students: \$576,219

- Eligible Students: 819
- Grant Offered per student: \$475.00
- Total Number of Applicants: 1168
- **Total Amount of Grants Disbursed: \$389,025**
- **Total Amount of Unused Grants: \$165,775**

Redistribution of Funds

Oconee Fall Line Technical College will award students to the best of its abilities and based on the current guidance available. Any remaining funds available will be equally redistributed among all previously eligible students for the current/future term(s).