Office of Postsecondary Education
Higher Education Programs
Technical Assistance

HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDING
Welcome and Introduction of Speakers

Chris McCaghren, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education Programs
Agenda

- Welcome
- Overview of CARES Act Funding
- Resources
- Questions and Answers
Remarks.......
CARES Funding

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - Student Aid (84.425E)
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - Institutional Portion - (84.425F)
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - Historically Black Colleges and Universities (84.425J)
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - Tribally Control Colleges and Universities (84.425K)
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - Minority Serving Institutions (84.425L)
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - Strengthening Institutions Program (84.425M)
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - FIPSE (84.425N)

https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/caresact.html
Grantee Responsibilities......

- Maintain Accurate Records
- Reporting Responsibilities
- Communication with ED Contact
- Know the various Certification and Agreements
Program Specialist Role

Serves as the first line of communication

Provides information

Provides technical assistance

Approves and makes administrative changes

Updates the program file

Refers grantee question to Director, G5, HEERF helpdesk, as needed
Resources

COVID-19 ("Coronavirus") Information and Resources for Schools and School Personnel

Health officials are currently taking steps to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 ("Coronavirus") into communities across the United States. [Coronavirus.gov](https://www.coronavirus.gov) offers the most up-to-date information about this rapidly evolving situation.

Through collaboration and coordination with state and local health departments, state and local educational agencies, other education officials, and elected officials, schools can disseminate critical information about the disease and its potential transmission to students, families, staff, and community.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided guidance for school settings.

Additional Resources for Elementary and Secondary Schools:
- Waiver Authority for the Period of Availability for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B Funds: Letter Announcing Waiver Authority (PDF) | Request Form for Waiver (PDF) (June 8, 2020)
- Frequently Asked Questions document on "Maintenance of Effort" requirements in the CARES Act (June 5, 2020)
- Fact Sheet: Providing Services to Student Learners During the COVID-19 Outbreak (May 18, 2020)

Resources............

COVID-19 Title IV Frequently Asked Questions

Timeframe for COVID-19 Relief

1. The guidance in the Electronic Announcement published March 5, 2020 indicates that the guidance and relief do not apply for students who have not yet enrolled, or whose term has not yet begun, as of that date. We plan to switch from an on campus to an online format for a term that begins in May. Does this guidance apply to us?
CARES Act: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

New COVID-19 FAQ's for Title III, IV, V, and VII Grantees

CARES Act: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

Updated statement 5/21/2020: The Department has stated on its guidance portal that “guidance documents lack the force and effect of law.” See U.S. Department of Education’s Guidance Homepage, https://www2.ed.gov/about/guidance.html (“Guidance documents represent the ED’s current thinking on a topic. They do not create or confer any rights for or on any person and do not impose any requirements beyond those required under applicable law and regulations. Guidance documents lack the force and effect of law.”), compare, e.g., OPE Guidance Documents, https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/guidance.html (“Guidance documents lack the force and effect of law.”). On February 26, 2020, the Department published a Federal Register notice stating this principle along with an announcement of the existence and location of its guidance portal. Notice of Guidance Portal, 85
FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

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