

**Compass College of Cinematic Arts**  
**CARES Act HEER Funds Report – May 23, 2020**

The CARES Act, which establishes and funds the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), directs institutions of higher education (“institutions”) to use no less than 50 percent of funds received under Sections 18004(a)(1) and 18004(c) of the CARES Act to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus.

The CARES Act requires that institutions receiving these funds provide a report to the Secretary of Education describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund. The initial guidance from the Department of Education requires that the information must appear in a format and location that is easily accessible to the public 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation.

**Compass College 30-day Fund Report.**

**1. Acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement**

Compass College signed and returned to the Department of Education the Funding Certification and Agreement for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students, which acknowledged that the institution will use no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. The Application for the student portion of funds was submitted to Grants.gov on April 17, 2020 and the college received its allocation.

**2. Total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.**

Compass College received notification on April 25, 2020 from the Federal Government, as part of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - Student Aid program, that the college had been awarded the first part of the HEER Funds in the amount of \$93,476, which is half of Section 18004(a)(1) and is designated for the direct payment of grants to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care.

**3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission**

As of May 23, 2020, no funds have been distributed to students. Plans and processes are still being put in place.

**4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants**

As of May 23, 2020, Compass College has 85 potentially eligible students. Final determination has not been made on 12 of the 85 students.

**5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant**

As of May 23, 2020, no students from Compass College have received any funds.

**6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive**

The college has produced a draft of a plan for determining which students will receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and the grant amount they might receive. This draft plan is based on criteria established by the Department of Education (DOE). The guidance provided by the DOE, however, leaves unresolved some important questions regarding student eligibility. The college is still working through how to make final determinations regarding grants in light of this lack of clarity.

**7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants**

In order to identify the impact to students the college e-mailed all students a Compass College CARES Act COVID-19 Financial Assistance Request Form and sent texts reminding them to respond to the form. The form included the following information:

On March 27, 2020, the Federal Government signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Through the CARES Act, stabilization grants are available to directly aid students to cover expenses they experienced related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including but not limited to expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

The grant funds are available to all students who are or could be eligible for federal financial aid, which includes students who would be eligible for federal financial aid if they filed the FAFSA. The college will contact students who have not filed a FAFSA to request information that will allow us to verify their eligibility to receive the grant funds.

In order to help the college determine the level of grant funds a student could be awarded we are providing this form for you to let us know about circumstances and expenses you may have experienced or may be experiencing. These could be, but are not limited to:

1. Having to purchase/upgrade your internet service to accommodate online classes;
2. Having to buy a newer computer in order to manage online classes;

3. Medical costs associated with mental health issues related to COVID-19;
4. Housing challenges (whether you had to move home, have storage costs for leaving things in GR when you moved home, broke a lease in order to move home, etc).

Loss of job or reduction in work hours is not considered a qualifying expense so do not report that information on this form.

This form must be completed and submitted by the end of the day, Tuesday, May 12, 2020, in order to assist the college in determining the level of a possible emergency aid grant. Keep in mind that Compass may ask you for further documentation or additional information.

Any questions may be sent to Lynne Heerema in Financial Aid ([lynne.h@compass.edu](mailto:lynne.h@compass.edu)).