

**Southern Tech is pleased to announce participation in the Cares Act
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.**

A second round of Emergency grant funds are offered to post-secondary students, in addition to any other financial aid received, for emergency expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus.

The Certification and Agreement forms have been submitted and funds were received to help offset additional expenses for eligible post-secondary students.

An additional \$126,027, has been allocated on need-based criteria to eligible post-secondary students who completed and returned a HEERF II Supplemental Grant Attestation form by March 12, 2021 attesting to meeting the Title IV eligibility requirements listed on the form. The form and announcement were sent to all adult students through Canvas email. Checks are mailed directly to students at the address on their account with Southern Tech.

Allowable expenses can be used solely for costs of attendance or emergency costs related to the disruption of campus operation at Southern Tech and to the Corona Virus including tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care and child care. To date 45 post-secondary students applied for and were successfully granted a total of \$56,300. Any remaining funds after March 12th will be disbursed equally as a residual payment for those same post-secondary students who have the greatest need, namely Pell grant recipients. The balance remaining in the fund until the next disbursement scheduled for March 12, 2021, is \$69,727.

Originally 114 students were estimated to possibly be eligible for the disaster relief funds. 48 students submitted attestations last week and 45 were eligible for first disbursement on March 5, 2021. Students must meet the school's SAP and attendance policies and any monthly payment plans must be current before a disbursement is made.

The methods used by Southern Tech for the level of funding were chosen for expediency and efficiency. When HEERF II funds were received 114 students were still determined to be eligible for funds. Rather than make students go through a lengthy process of applying for Title IV aid, if they had not already, and completing a scholarship form and having a committee determine who is eligible for how much while everyone is still trying to cope with a pandemic and adjust to virtual learning, Southern Tech paid funds on a 3-tiered basis. Student who applied for Pell grant and received a -o- EFC received \$1700 each, students with a higher EFC but still eligible for Pell received \$1,200. All other students received \$750. Any remaining funds after all students had an opportunity to participate, will be disbursed equally to Pell grant students. Pell grant students have shown the greatest need. This is in accordance with the current Federal Government instructions.

CARES Act HEERF Student Portion Funds

As of the quarterly report dated 12-31-20, the total amount of Cares Act HEERF funds, \$126,027, has been expended.

CRRSAA HEERF II Student Portion Funds

Southern Tech was awarded an additional \$126,027 for students on 2-11-21. As of today, 3-4-21, \$56,300 of the \$126,027 HEERF II student funds have been expended.

Cares Act HEERF Institutional Portion Funds

Certification and Agreement forms were submitted and funds in the amount of \$126,027 have been awarded to cover costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus such as expanding remote learning programs, building IT capacity to support such programs and training faculty and staff to operate safely and effectively in a remote learning environment now and in the future. As of the quarterly report dated 9-30-20, the total amount of these funds, \$126,027, has been expended.

Cares Act HEERF FIPSE Funds

Certification and Agreement forms were submitted in early May, 2020, and funds were awarded in the amount of \$247,946. These funds were reported as received on the Quarterly Budget and Expenditures Report ending 9-30-20. A revised report shows \$133,176 of these funds expended as of 9-30-20. As of the posting of the second quarterly report dated 12-31-20, another \$25,091 was expended in the fourth quarter of the calendar year 2020. A balance of \$89,679 remains available for continuing expenditures due to COVID-19 and virtual instruction as we begin the 2021 Calendar year.

Supplying students and staff with laptops and distance learning/working capabilities and operating a pandemically safe and sanitized campus have been the largest expenses. The Financial Aid Coordinator and the Business Office are working together to ensure proper accounting of funds for allowable purposes and in accordance with cash management principles.

CRRSAA HEERF II Institutional Portion Funds

Southern Tech was awarded an additional \$283,907 on 1-19-21.

This notice was posted within 30 days of receipt of student allocation and then quarterly as directed.

Date of Allocation 2-11-21; 30-day report posted 3-05-21, last quarterly report 1-07-21, next quarterly report due 4-10-21

Annual report submitted 1-18-21.