CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Application

St. Cloud State University students experiencing a short-term financial need due to the disruption of campus operations caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19), are encouraged fill out an application for consideration of a one-time emergency student grant from the CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund. These emergency funds can pay for expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. The money is designated to provide financial assistance to students for specific expenses that are a direct result of the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus.

What Does This Funding Cover?
The following is a list of expenses that can be considered for grant assistance if they were "related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus."

- Food
- Housing
- Course materials
- Technology (such as having to purchase a computer or Wi-Fi access for online courses)
- Health care
- Child care

In the spirit of serving as many of St. Cloud State University's most in need students, and because CARES Act funding is limited, we appreciate students applying for a grant only if you experienced unexpected expenses.

Eligibility
Students who meet all criteria below are eligible to apply:

1. Working towards a degree or certificate at St. Cloud State University.
2. Enrolled in Spring 2020 in at least one in-person/faceto face course, even if that course moved to an online format due to the coronavirus.
3. Demonstrating eligibility for Federal Title IV financial aid by having a FAFSA on file or attesting to their eligibility at the time of application submission.

*Per the U.S. Department of Education, international students, students enrolled exclusively in online courses, and students taking college courses as part of their high school studies are not eligible to receive CARES Act funding.
How to Apply

Eligible students who experienced these types of expenses are encouraged to complete a brief application that can be found on Huskies Connect at: https://huskiesconnect.stcloudstate.edu/submitter/form/start/404511

Applications received by 8:00AM on Monday, May 25, 2020 will receive priority consideration.

FAQs

Q: What is my deadline to apply?
A: Applications submitted by 8:00AM on Monday, May 25, 2020 will receive priority consideration.

Q: Are all students eligible?
A: No, per the U.S. Department of Education, international students, students enrolled exclusively in online courses, and students taking college courses as part of their high school studies are not eligible to receive CARES Act funding.

Q: Will everyone who applies for a CARES Act Emergency Grant receive one?
A: No, based on the limited funding we received from the U.S. Department of Education, it will be distributed to students with the most demonstrated need.

Q: Do I need to repay this grant?
A: No, money received through this fund does not need to be repaid. This fund does not impact nor replace any financial aid you may currently receive, and it is a one-time grant.

Q: How many times can I apply?
A: Once.

Q: How much will I receive?
A: Award amounts will be based on the number of applications received and total amount of funds requested by all applicants.

Q: When will I know if I will receive a grant?
A: Our goal is to award emergency grants by the end of May 2020, and you will receive a notification to your SCSU email address.

Q: How will I receive the grant money?
A: Funds will be directly deposited into bank accounts for students who are enrolled in the direct deposit option. All other funds will be sent by check to the permanent address on file with the University. To update
your direct deposit or address information, log in to your eServices account and make the appropriate changes.

**Q: What if I currently owe tuition or other expenses to St. Cloud State University?**
**A:** The full amount of the emergency grants will be given directly to students and will not pay outstanding balances owed to SCSU. Any outstanding balance owed to SCSU remains the responsibility of the student.

**Q: If I receive a grant from the CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, is it taxable?**
**A:** No. Emergency financial aid grants under the CARES Act are qualified disaster relief payments per the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and will not be taxable.

**Q: Who can I contact if I have other questions about the CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund?**
**A:** Students can submit questions to financialaid@stcloudstate.edu. A Financial Aid Office staff member will respond as soon as possible.