Centre College

CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants Report

May 25, 2020

Centre College makes this status report in compliance with Federal Regulation from the Department of Education.

Centre College has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement. Centre will use no less than 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Centre College has received \$493,387 from the Department of Education pursuant to our Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. Our first disbursement of these funds occurred on May 18, 2020 for a total of \$456,650 which is 92.5% of our funding for students.

Centre's plan for disbursing these funds was finalized on May 14, 2020. Our plan is focused on those students who enrolled and were TIV eligible at the time the National Emergency was declared. Centre has an estimated 968 students eligible based on filed FAFSAs to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. Others are likely eligible and will be determined through an application process.

Our intent is to work most intensely with our neediest students, following the spirit of the Department of Education's encouragement. They will receive the majority of our funds while also still providing for a broad base of eligible student to receive some funding. At this time, we have pushed out awards to students with demonstrated need above our median without an application. Other students with need below our median will be invited to submit an application for Emergency Aid to help cover their disruption related expenses. This application will be made broadly available when developed through our college portal.

While all students are affected, our highest-need students are least likely to have sufficient resources in these areas and will struggle the most to meet these new expenses. We further recognize that students who were awarded work-study will face greater challenges in meeting these costs so they experience a higher level of need than other students with similar EFCs and will receive larger awards.

We will utilize tiers of need to help students who experienced extraordinary expense due to the disruption from our campus caused by the COVID-19 National Emergency. Exact tiers and award amounts are outlined below. These expenses include the food, housing, quality internet access, electricity and technology normally provided by the college. These expenses are now being met at home as well as extra travel expenses incurred by travel home on short notice.

The first disbursement of Centre CARES Act funding went to 626 students which is 89% of our eligible students with demonstrated need. Our tiered awards were: \$1,000 for EFCs up to 5,600, \$500 for 5,600-10,000 EFCs, \$250 for 10,001-20,000 EFCs, \$100 for EFC from 20,001-30,000. Any student awarded Federal Work-Study for spring semester received \$325 in addition to the tiered amount.

Publication of our plan and notification of payments has occurred through campus email. Our plan was publicized through campus list-serves on May 15, 2020 and is available <u>here</u>. Students were notified individually via their Centre email address of their awards and the detail behind their award amount. A <u>sample notification email</u> is also available. Checks were mailed to students' permanent address of record.

Instructions, directions, guidance and the application will be provided to students regarding the Emergency Financial Aid Grants application when that is available through broadcast emails to student and parent campus list-serves as well as our website.

This report will be updated with significant developments as they occur and at least every 45 days.

Respectfully submitted May 26, 2020 by Kevin Lamb, Associate Dean of Admission and Financial Aid, Director of Financial Aid. Published on the web May 28, 2020.