

## **Required Reporting Information for the CARES Act Emergency Grants to Students**

**Updated March 31, 2021 – All substantive internal reviews have been completed with no further updates required. This report is considered the FINAL report.**

1. On April 16, 2020, Bucknell University returned a signed Certification and Agreement to the U.S. Department of Education assuring that no less than 50 percent of funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act would be distributed to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible Bucknell students.
2. In accordance with the University's Certification and Agreement, Bucknell University received \$973,227 from the U.S. Department of Education to distribute as Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.
3. On May 15, 2020 and within 30 days of submitting its Certification and Agreement, Bucknell University distributed a total of \$928,500 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

*Update: On June 2, 2020, Bucknell University distributed an additional \$46,227 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, bringing our total funding distributed to our allocation of \$973,227.*

4. Bucknell University estimates that 1615 Bucknell students are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and are thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
5. As of May 15, 2020, 1155 Bucknell University students received Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

*Update: As of June 2, 2020, 1264 Bucknell University students received Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.*

6. Students must have been enrolled for the Spring 2020 semester in at least one ground-based class and in a Title IV eligible degree-seeking or certificate program at the time of the Disruption of Campus Operations on March 13, 2020.
7. Bucknell University will issue the appropriate tax documents, if any, to students for CARES Emergency Grants, as required by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The IRS has provided interim guidance that the CARES Emergency Grants are not taxable income to the students who receive such funds.
8. Bucknell University used the following method to determine which students would receive direct Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
  - a) First, Bucknell identified students who satisfied three preliminary criteria: (1) had a 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) on file with the University; (2) were eligible to receive Title IV aid for the Spring 2020 semester and had demonstrated financial need according to their calculated Federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC); and (3) received Bucknell aid for the Spring 2020 semester.
  - b) Students meeting all criteria set forth above were grouped into 5 categories based on their Federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC) in order to distribute the highest amount of

aid to the highest need students. Based on ranges of EFC students, grants were awarded to students in the amounts of \$1,000, \$900, \$800, \$650 and \$500.

*Update: On May 25, 2020, Bucknell identified a group of students who: (1) had a 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with the University; (2) were eligible to receive Title IV aid for the Spring 2020 semester and had demonstrated financial need according to their calculated Federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC). These students did have financial need, but did not receive Bucknell aid for the Spring 2020 semester. They were awarded grants in the amount of \$400.*

9. Bucknell retained \$44,727 of the awarded funds to be distributed in a second round for other needy students.

*Update: Due to students declining awards from the first round, the amount to be distributed in a second round changed to \$46,227, which was distributed on June 2, 2020.*

10. Bucknell University emailed eligible students on May 8, 2020, informing them of the following:
  - Bucknell University was awarded federal funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.
  - These funds are to be awarded as CARES Emergency Grants to Bucknell students to help assist with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. Such expenses include costs associated with housing, meals, transportation, technology, medical expenses, travel and childcare.
  - The University distributed awards to students who completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2019-2020 academic year, were eligible for Title IV funds, demonstrated financial need at Bucknell and received Bucknell aid.
  - The funds would automatically be directly deposited in students' refund accounts set up in B-bill. If a student did not have a refund account set up or preferred deposit to a different account, the student was advised to update their information by Wednesday, May 13. If no specific direction was provided, the University mailed checks to students with a small processing delay.
  - Students were directed to submit questions about refund accounts to Bursar Services at [bursar@bucknell.edu](mailto:bursar@bucknell.edu).
  - Students who did not experience additional costs related to the coronavirus or who preferred not to receive the aid were asked to notify the University by Wednesday, May 13 so that aid could be awarded to another student.
  - Bucknell would process CARES Emergency Grants on Friday, May 15.

*Update: Bucknell University emailed a second group of students on May 26, 2020, informing them of the following:*

- *Bucknell University was awarded federal funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.*
- *These funds are to be awarded as CARES Emergency Grants to Bucknell students to help assist with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. Such expenses include costs associated with housing, meals, transportation, technology, medical expenses, travel and childcare.*
- *The University distributed awards to students who completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2019-2020 academic year, were eligible for Title IV funds, and demonstrated financial need at Bucknell.*
- *The funds would automatically be directly deposited in students' refund accounts set up in B-bill. If a student did not have a refund account set up or preferred deposit to a different account, the student was advised to update their information by Monday, June 1. If no*

*specific direction was provided, the University mailed checks to students with a small processing delay.*

- *Students were directed to submit questions about refund accounts to Bursar Services at [bursar@bucknell.edu](mailto:bursar@bucknell.edu).*
- *Students who did not experience additional costs related to the coronavirus or who preferred not to receive the aid were asked to notify the University by Monday, June 1 so that aid could be awarded to another student.*
- *Bucknell would process CARES Emergency Grants on Tuesday, June 2.*