

## **CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (CRRSA) HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND REPORTING – STUDENT PORTION**

### **The Federal Emergency Grants for Spring 2021/Summer 2021**

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS) signed and returned the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to the U.S. Department of Education on April 21, 2020. An additional certification was not required to receive Higher Education Emergency Relief funds under CRRSA. SEBTS used 50 percent of the funds received under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Additionally, SEBTS intends to use no less than the required amount of funds received under CRRSA to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

### **Federal Emergency Aid Grant Reporting**

SEBTS received \$847,381 from the Department of Education from the CRRSA Act, \$173,635 of which is reserved for student grants.

As of June 31, 2021, SEBTS has distributed \$100,439 to provide CRRSA Act Emergency Grants to 161 students.

During the second quarter (April 1, 2021 – June 31, 2021), SEBTS distributed \$49,782 to provide CRRSA Act Emergency Grants to 84 students.

### **Federal Emergency Aid Grant Criteria and Eligibility**

#### **Eligible Students**

Students had to be U.S. Citizens, degree-seeking, and complete the CRRSA Application to be eligible for funds. To be considered, students had to have a loan or a payment plan in place during the Spring 2021 semester in the amount of at least \$1,000. We estimated that 585 students met these requirements for the 2020-2021 academic year.

#### **Method Used**

Identified eligible students were sent an email notifying them that funds were available with instructions on how to apply for the funds. Funds were only be released to students who met the criteria on a first-come, first-serve basis. Award amounts were determined based on need and income. See chart below for levels of funding. Once an award amount was determined for a student, the amount was added to a spreadsheet. The student was then notified of the award and asked to fill out a payment form about how they would like to receive the funds. Once we knew if they would like a check mailed or the award applied to their student account, we processed the award.

SEBTS outlined a plan for disbursing the student portion of the CRRSA Funds.

Funds were allocated to students based on the need of enrolled students. Need was determined by taking multiple pieces of a student's account into consideration such as tuition & fees, student balances, enrollment, other sources of financial aid, etc. Students completed an application to confirm basic student and academic information. The application collected students' estimated income, which also assisted in determining need. These funds were intended to help students defray the standard elements of their Cost of Attendance (COA).

<b>CRRSA Award Amounts</b>			
Nelnet Plan or Loan Amount	\$1,000+	\$2,000+	\$3,000+
Estimated Income Below \$30,000	\$500	\$700	\$1,000
Estimated Income Below \$45,000	\$400	\$550	\$750
Estimated Income Below \$60,000	\$300	\$400	\$500
Estimated Income Above \$59,999	\$250	\$300	\$350

In some cases, other student data was used to adjust exact award amounts, such as marital status, number of dependents, dependents in college, SBC and non-SBC tuition rate, etc. The above figures represent general awarding categories that may have been adjusted for specific student situations.

**Student Instructions**

Undergraduate students had to fill out a SEBTS CRRSA Act Application. Applications were accepted for approximately one month.

Students were told that this emergency grant could be used for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus including, but not limited to, food, course materials, technology, healthcare, childcare, and travel.