

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (CRRSA) & AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND REPORTING – STUDENT PORTION

The Federal Emergency Grants for Summer 2021/Fall 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 or ARP. 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 and ARP 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.

SEBTS also received \$1,529,476 from the Department of Education from the ARP Act, \$764,738 of which is reserved for student grants.

As of September 30, 2021, SEBTS has distributed \$104,788 to provide CRRSA Emergency Grants to 167 students.

As of September 30, 2021, SEBTS has distributed \$47,874 to provide ARP Emergency Grants to 23 students.

During the third quarter (July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021), SEBTS distributed \$52,223 to provide CRRSA & ARP Act Emergency Grants to 29 students.

Federal Emergency Aid Grant Criteria and Eligibility

CRRSA Act

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).

CRRSA Award Amounts			
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.

ARP Act

Eligible Students

Students had to be enrolled in the Fall 2021 semester, degree-seeking, complete a FAFSA® or alternate application, and complete a payment form to be eligible for funds. To be considered, students had to complete the first three requirements previously mentioned. We estimated that 3,544 students met these requirements for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Methods Used

All students were sent information notifying them that funds were available and instructions on how to apply for those funds. Students were required to complete a *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) or alternate application to be considered for funds. Once an award amount was determined for a student, the amount was added to our ARP 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. Students were instructed that they could either request a check or apply the grant to their student account.

Additionally, students were told that this emergency grant could be used for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus or for any component of their educational cost of attendance, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare. Once we received the payment form, we processed the award. Priority was given to students with exceptional need, including international students, then on a first-come, first-serve basis.

SEBTS outlined a two-phase plan for disbursing the student portion of the ARP Funds.

Phase one disbursed funds to students based on the need of enrolled students. Need was predominantly determined by a student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC), enrollment, and other financial aid available to them. If a student was unable to complete the FAFSA®, we used AGI, number of family members or legal dependents, number in college, impact of COVID, and special circumstances to determine their need, which they reported on our alternate application. See charts below for level of funding.

Phase two was an "if needed" phase of awarding. If all funds were not awarded in phase one, phase two would provide additional assistance to students who had already received funding in phase one. Awards in each phase can stack for students.

Enrollment	EFC 0- 6,000	EFC 6,001- 12,000	EFC 12,001- 18,000	EFC 18,001- 20,000	EFC 20,000+
UG (12+hrs); G (9+hrs)	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$750	\$500
<i>*Reduced award</i>	\$2,800	\$1,800	\$800	\$600	\$350
UG (9-11hrs); G (6-8hrs)	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$800	\$600	\$400
<i>*Reduced Award</i>	\$2,300	\$1,300	\$600	\$400	\$350
UG (6-8hrs); G (4-5hrs); Adv (4-6)	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$700	\$500	\$350
<i>*Reduced Award</i>	\$1,800	\$800	\$500	\$400	\$350
UG (1-5hrs); G (1-3hrs); Adv (1-3)	\$1,500	\$900	\$500	\$400	\$350
<i>*Reduced Award</i>	\$1,300	\$700	\$500	\$400	\$350

UG: Undergraduate students; G: Graduate students; Adv: Advanced students

***Reduced award is only for UG students who meet the eligibility requirements for the NC NBS or G students who meet the eligibility requirements for the Charles B. Keese Grant.**

Enrollment	12-17 Points**	6-11 Points**	0-5 Points**
UG (12+hrs); G (9+hrs)	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
UG (9-11hrs); G (6-8hrs)	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$800
UG (6-8hrs); G (4-5hrs); Adv (4-6)	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$700
UG (1-5hrs); G (1-3hrs); Adv (1-3)	\$1,500	\$900	\$500

UG: Undergraduate students; G: Graduate students; Adv: Advanced students

****Point calculation takes into consideration AGI, dependents, number in college, COVID impact, and special circumstances.**

Student Instructions

All students had to complete a FAFSA®, if they had the ability to do so. If they were unable to complete a FAFSA® they could complete the alternate online application. Award amounts

were determined according to the charts above. Once the student was notified of the award and asked to fill out a payment form informing us of how they would like to receive the funds, they had to complete the form for us to process the award. After we knew if they would like a check mailed or the award applied to their student account, we processed the award. If the student did not complete a payment form, their application was considered incomplete. Applications were accepted until January 31st, 2022.

Students were told that this emergency grant could be used for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus or for any component of their educational cost of attendance, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare. They could determine how to use the emergency financial aid grant within the allowable uses.