

## Frequently Asked Questions from Students about the Higher Education Emergency Relief Student Grants

1. Do I have to repay the emergency financial aid grant I received from my university through the CARES Act?

No. The funds provided by the CARES Act are grants, so they do not need to be repaid.

2. I am a student who received an emergency financial aid grant from my university through the CARES Act. Is this grant includible in my gross income?

No. According to the Internal Revenue Service, "Emergency financial aid grants under the CARES Act for unexpected expenses, unmet financial need, or expenses related to the disruption of campus operations on account of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as unexpected expenses for food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, or childcare, are qualified disaster relief payments under section 139." For more information please visit: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/faqs-higher-education-emergency-relief-fund-and-emergency-financial-aid-grants-under-the-cares-act>.

3. What can emergency financial aid grants provided by the CARES Act be used for?

Emergency financial aid grants to students can be used for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

4. What students are eligible to receive this Emergency Financial Aid Grant from the CARES Act?

To be eligible a student must be or could be eligible for Title IV Student Financial Aid. Thus, any active student as of 3/12/20 or newly enrolled future start by 6/1/20 who is eligible for Title IV Aid is eligible for the Grant. To verify title IV eligibility, student must have submitted a FAFSA and all verification documents **by June 8th, 2021** to receive a disbursement.

5. Do I have to fill out a form for the Grant?

Yes, NLEI has created a request form for students to request the funds. The link to the form was sent to you via email.

6. How will I receive the Emergency Financial Aid Grant from my school?

You have the option of a paper check in the mail, or ACH, if you chose to provide your bank account information.

7. I am a student who received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under the CARES Act. Will the grant funds be included in my gross income for 2020?

No. Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the CARES Act for unexpected expenses, unmet financial need, or expenses related to the disruption of campus operations on account of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, or childcare are qualified disaster relief payments under section 139 of the Internal Revenue Code. This grant will not be included in your gross income.

9. Where can I find additional information about the CARES Act?

You can find more information on the CARES ACT and the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/caresact.html>.