

# HEERF SCTC CARES Student Communication:

September 17, 2020

## Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act

### Emergency CARES Funds Available to Southern Crescent Technical College Students

Southern Crescent Technical College students who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak can now access emergency funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Funding is now available through the Southern Crescent Technical College Financial Aid office to assist students with expenses related to disruptions to their education due to the pandemic.

In order to receive an Emergency CARES Funds Grant and using guidance from the Department of Education that limits who/what qualifies for a grant, students are asked to complete an application that is available online. Once submitted, it is reviewed to verify whether it qualifies. **The deadline to submit an Emergency CARES Funds Grant application will be October 15, 2020.**

Below are details about how these funds will work, and how you can apply:

- Students will apply for funding via an [online application](#), where you will explain how you have been impacted and your overall financial need. Once the application has been submitted it will be forwarded to our [finaid@sctech.edu](mailto:finaid@sctech.edu) email
- We anticipate a high volume of applications that will be processed on a first come first serve basis
- These funds are similar to the Pell grant, and do not need to be repaid
- CARES funds are limited; therefore, eligible students will receive a maximum amount of \$500.00
- To be eligible, students must:
  - Currently be enrolled at SCTC
  - Have submitted a 2020-2021 FAFSA
  - Be eligible to receive title IV funds (Pell and Federal Student loans)
  - Be making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
  - Not be in default or have an overpayment

Students who wish to apply for the Emergency CARES Funds Grant, who have not completed the 2020-2021 FAFSA, are encouraged to complete the [2020-2021 FAFSA](#) by October 15, 2020.

## CARES Act

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from COVID-19. One section of the CARES act established the Higher Education Emergency Relief fund and sent money to schools to use for

emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the pandemic.

Southern Crescent Technical College has received \$1,956,144.00 for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to disburse to students. As of August 20, 2020, Southern Crescent Technical College has disbursed \$1,750,800.00 in Emergency Financial Aid Grant Funds to the following number of students by term:

- 2,549 students who were enrolled in spring 2020 classes
- 1,291 students who were enrolled in summer 2020 classes

May 6, 2020 Dear SCTC Students,

Southern Crescent Technical College received approval to distribute CARES Act funds to help spring term 2020 students and summer term 2020 students impacted by COVID-19. The Offices of Financial Aid and Student Accounts are working diligently to apply the federal guidelines and issue these funds. We will publish information on the SCTC Financial Aid webpage that will provide additional information and the amounts of the grants to be issued to eligible students. Students will not have to apply for these funds, payments will be disbursed using student accounts through BankMobile. If you have not already made your preference selection through BankMobile please visit this link: <http://bankmobiledisbursements.com/refundchoices/>.

The CARES Act states specifically that students who meet the following criteria may be eligible:

- Students who have a completed 2019- 2020 FAFSA on file (If you do not have one on file you may fill out the 2019-2020 aid year, the form is online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) (SCTC's school code: 005621))
- Students who are currently enrolled for Spring term 2020
- Summer term 2020 students who were also enrolled spring term after March 13, 2020

Students that are **not** eligible according to the guidelines issued by the Department of Education are:

- International Students
- Transient Students (Home institution will issue those grants)
- Dual Enrolled Students (High School Students)
- Students that were enrolled 100% online prior to March 13, 2020
- Students enrolled in mini-mester 1 classes only (classes ended prior to March 13, 2020)
- Students who withdrew completely from the college prior to March 13, 2020
- Students with defaulted student loans or have an overpayment
- Students not making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Contact the Financial Aid Office if you have questions at [770-228-7368](tel:770-228-7368) or via [finaid@sctech.edu](mailto:finaid@sctech.edu). **Please continue to check your email for additional information.** Our goal is to start disbursing funds to students by May 12, 2020.

CARES Act funds are limited. Funds will continue to be distributed to eligible students until funds are exhausted.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Michelle Bedford,  
SCTC Director of Financial Aid