

**Franklin & Marshall College Quarterly Report**  
**Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund**  
Report through March 31, 2021

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed the CARES Act (H.R. 748), which provides emergency relief funds to organizations and individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), found in Section 18004 of the CARES Act, provides funding to institutions of higher education “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.”

This report provides further details on the first award Franklin & Marshall received under the HEERF, specifically, the funds for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Award No. P425E203420, consistent with the reporting requirements issued on May 6, 2020 by the Office of Postsecondary Education of the U.S. Department of Education.

In distributing these funds, the College has followed, and will follow, the instructions and guidance provided by the CARES Act, the U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid, and the Certification and Agreement completed by the College. The current guidance and instructions provide institutions with discretion to develop its own system and process for determining how to allocate these funds, subject to certain limitations on student eligibility and expense eligibility. Information on that process is provided below, as is a link for further information.

### **CERTIFICATION**

Franklin & Marshall signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement on April 10, 2020. Franklin & Marshall will use no less than 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

### **AWARD**

Franklin & Marshall will receive a total of \$1,692,121 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the HEERF. At least \$846,061 will be distributed directly to students impacted by campus disruptions due to the Coronavirus.

### **FUNDS DISTRIBUTED**

The disbursement of grants began June 10, 2020. Through March 31, 2021, a total of \$695,663.31 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants had been distributed to 662 students.

### **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

Franklin & Marshall has an estimate of 1934 students eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

### **METHOD USED TO DETERMINE STUDENTS ELIGIBILITY**

The College distributed the CARES Act emergency grants via an online application process. The application required each applicant to attest that they had incurred eligible expenses. Eligible expenses, per the CARES Act, are “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, healthcare, and child-care expenses).” Applications were processed in the order in which they were received. Students who met all student and expense eligibility requirements received grants up to \$3000.

After this process, some funds remained, and they were designated to be used along with the student aid funds in the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA, also known as HEERF II) in providing aid with priority to students with exceptional need. The distribution of these awards occurred after the March 31, 2021 end-period for this report.

### **INSTRUCTIONS/DIRECTIONS GIVEN TO STUDENTS**

Instructions, directions, guidance and the application provided to students were disseminated in the context of an application form. Two rounds of applications were accepted; the second round was open only to students who had not applied in the first round or who had made errors in that submission.

The remaining funds were distributed by formula to students with exceptional need. This occurred along with distributing a significant amount of the funds from the CRRSAA legislation.

May 11, 2021