

April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021

# **CRRSAA / ARP Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants**

Wake Technical Community College signed and returned the Certification and Agreement to the US Department of Education offering assurance that the college intends to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students on April 15, 2020.

The college received a Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) Grant Award Notification from the US Department of Education on February 16, 2021 in the amount of \$5,195,425 for Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants and accepted the terms and conditions as outlined.

The college received an American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Grant Award Notification from the US Department of Education on May 17, 2021 in the amount of \$19,645,996 for Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants and accepted the terms and conditions as outlined.

### Status of Distribution of Funds

Wake Tech distributed \$3,928,600 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 6,211 students.

Note: A remainder of \$575 of CARES Act / HEERF I student emergency aid funds was applied to this pool of students receiving CRRSAA/HEERF II Emergency Financial Aid Grants. Therefore, \$575 was awarded from CARES Act/HEERF I funds and \$3,928,025 was awarded from CRRSAA/HEERF II funds.

# Eligibility

At the time of Student Emergency Financial Aid Grant award distribution on April 19, 2021, US Department of Education Title IV eligibility requirements were in place and 7,816 Wake Tech students were eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Wake Tech set forth further criteria to identify students with exceptional need to include financial need and enrollment status. 6,211 students were confirmed to have met all eligibility criteria set forth by the committee to receive an Emergency Financial Aid grant.

## Methodology

Wake Tech devised an objective formula to distribute funds to students. The formula considered the FAFSA-determined Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) and number of actively enrolled credit hours. Students could earn a maximum of 7 points in the formula between these two criteria. Each point in the formula was assigned a value of \$100. An additional \$200 was added for students with an EFC of zero.

#### **Student Communication**

Wake Tech has communicated to students about Emergency Financial Aid Grants by email, including messages sent through the Financial Aid Office student information system. On July 7, 2021 and July 21, 2021, students were notified of their eligibility for grant funds, amounts, and guidance for reviewing their awards via an email from President Ralls. On July 7, 2021 and July 22, 2021, additional email correspondence was sent from the Financial Aid Office via our student information system.