

**Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Reporting:
Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students
Richard Bland College 30-Day Fund Report
May 15, 2020**

Overview of Funding:

Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act” or the “Act”), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020), directs institutions receiving funds under Section 18004 of the Act to submit (in a time and manner required by the Secretary) a report to the Secretary describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”).

On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education posted their reporting requirements for HEERF participating institutions.

Each HEERF participating institution is responsible for providing this information in report format (the “30-day Fund Report”). In addition, these participating institutions are required to post the information listed below on the institution’s primary website. Accordingly, the following information will be easily accessible to the public and made available 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation under 18004(a)(1) and updated every 45 days thereafter.

Richard Bland College (RBC) addresses questions for the “30-Day Fund Report” below:

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or 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.

RBC Response: *RBC completed and submitted the Recipient’s Funding Certification and Agreement on Wednesday, April 15, 2020. The Offices of Finance and Financial Aid have established a process in order to deliver no less than 50% of the funding to students for Emergency Financial Aid Grants.*

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

RBC Response: *RBC was allocated \$410,367 in funding to be distributed for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible students.*

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter).

RBC Response: *As of this initial 30-day reporting period, no funding has been distributed to students.*

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution 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.

RBC Response: *At this time, we estimate 600 students will be eligible to participate in the program.*

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

RBC Response: *As of this initial 30-day reporting period, no students have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants from the CARES Act.*

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

RBC Response: *We are using an application process for students to apply for the CARES funding, to include the students completing the FAFSA form to determine eligibility. Students are asked to complete the FAFSA if they had not already done so by May 15 and all students should fill out a COVID-19 Application form for funding by June 1, 2020. Once we determine all students who are eligible to receive the funding, the students will receive an equal share: full amount for full-time students, and half of that amount for less than full-time students. Our goal is to begin awarding the funds mid-June.*

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

RBC Response: *The Office of Financial Aid has sent several emails to students with instructions on applying for the FAFSA and the RBC COVID-19 Application for funding. The instructions are easy to follow and includes the link to the application. The application can also be accessed via mobile devices. We have also established a COVID-19 email address covid19info@rbc.edu where students can send any questions or concerns. The Office of Financial Aid is monitoring the applications received and sending out reminder notifications as needed.*