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CARES ACT EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID GRANT TO STUDENTS

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**General Information:** On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), which provides emergency relief funds to organizations and individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic, was signed into law. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), found in Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act, provides funding to institutions of higher education to assist students with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. These expenses include food, housing, course materials, technology, health, child care and related expenses. This report informs you as to the award received by Rust College and the amounts distributed to students at each reporting date under the HEERF.

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**Acknowledgement of Funding and Certification:** Rust College acknowledges that the institution's authorized representative signed and returned to the Department of Education (the Department) the Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement under the CARES Act. Rust College gives it assurance that the institution has used, or guarantees to use, no less than 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Grants to eligible students.

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**Total Award Amount to Rust College:** Rust College has received a total of \$679,794 from the Department pursuant to the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students signed on April 20, 2020.

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**Funds Distributed by Indicated Reporting Date:** The total amount of funds that Rust College received from the Department pursuant to our Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid to Students is \$679,794. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act from the date of submission to each reporting period end is:

Reporting Period End Date	Amount Distributed To Date	Total Number of Students Who Have Received Grants
May 19, 2020	-0-	-0-
May 31, 2020	-0-	-0-
June 30, 2020	\$587,768	618
July 30, 2020	\$ 92,025	622
Total Distributed	\$679.793	622

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**Student Eligibility:** The total number of Rust College students who were enrolled and 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 Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 622. This is the number of students enrolled in March, 2020, who submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and were found to be eligible under the regulations for that program. The number of students receiving grants as of each reporting period is included in the section above.

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**Methods Used to Determine Which Students Receive Aid and How Much:** The CARES Act provided funds to Rust College for grants to students to defray costs associated with the effects of the coronavirus pandemic. The regulations allowed Rust College to determine amounts under a defined formula and procedure. Every student who was eligible for regular Federal Financial Aid as referenced in the Section above and who was registered as of March 18, 2020, (date of campus closing) has received funds under this program.

The amount of the grant for each student was determined within the regulations and requirements of the Department on the following basis:

- Off campus students not living in the residence halls received \$800.00.
- On campus students whose official address on file with the college on March 18, 2020, is within 149 miles of Holly Springs received \$930.00.
- On campus students whose official address on file with the college on March 18, 2020, is 150 miles or more from Holly Springs received \$1,050.

Students who had unusual circumstances were given until July 15 to submit an application for additional support. This application was mailed to all students with their original notices and their grant checks. It was also on our website and could be completed online. Supplemental grants were made to students based on their applications and the nature of their request and circumstances.

When all funds under the above procedures were disbursed, the remainder of the total allocated to Rust College was divided equally among all students who were eligible and distributed to them by mail. The following link will take you to a list of all students identified by Student Identification Number who has received funds under this program.

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**Communication with Students Concerning Emergency Financial Aid Grants:** Rust College communicated guidance and availability of Emergency Financial Aid Grants in a number of ways. Both mass regular mail and mas email were employed to distribute notice of the availability of the grants and the method for determining grant amounts. These communications informed students who felt they had been left off the list by mistake or any student who had experienced excess expenses that they could submit an application for additional consideration. Copies of this application were included in the mailings and posted on line where it could be completed and automatically submitted. Further summary information on the amounts available, amounts granted and number of students served is made available through this report format posted on our website as required by the Department.

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