

# BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY

## Higher Education Emergency Relief Report

CARES Grants to Students

Report as of July 01, 2020

Belhaven University signed and returned to the US Department of Education the Funding Certification and Agreement for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CARES Act on April 13, 2020. The Institution intends to 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.

On April 27, 2020, the university received a Grant Award Notification from the Department of Education regarding the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund allocated for the purpose of providing CARES funding to students:

\$1,102,409.00

On May15, 2020, the university began awarding CARES Grants to students. To date the amount of CARES funds disbursed to students is:

\$74,900.00

An estimated total number of students eligible to participate CARES Grants based on the criteria issued

3932

On May15, 2020, the university began awarding CARES Grants to students. To date the total number of students who have received CARES Grants is:

61

### **Methodology**

The Institution formed a CARES Committee to develop a method for distribution and allocation of the CARES Grants to students. In accordance with guidance issued by the Department of Education, the committee determined that only students studying in an on ground program were eligible for the CARES funds. In an effort to reach the greatest number of students, an application to assess the students with the greatest need and impact from the change in learning modality was created and posted to the student portal, Blazenet.

### **Communication to Students**

The Institution has communicated guidance to students concerning the CARES Grant in a number of ways. Our website includes Frequently Asked Questions that address the availability of these funds, who is eligible and the type of expenses that can be covered. In addition, we communicated to all students the following language:

*Belhaven has received \$1.1 million in funding to help students who demonstrate financial needs related only to the specific hardships in moving to a virtual format after March 20<sup>th</sup> including technology costs, course materials, housing, etc., or students who*

*have a significant loss of personal or family income due to the pandemic. The Federal government stipulates that the funds are only awarded for these purposes. Belhaven will make these funds available over the coming 12 months, and there is not an approaching deadline for requesting assistance. There is not a specific grant amount available for every student. It is important to note that only students who have completed the FAFSA and received Federal Aid this spring are eligible for CARES funding - and demonstrate need based on the above Federal government restrictions.*

*Over the coming year we will award the entirety of these funds to those with greatest hardship caused by the virus. You should visit with your financial aid advisor in the coming months if you believe you may be eligible for CARES funding.*

### **Report Submission Requirements**

This report satisfies the requirements for the initial 30-day Fund Report required by the US Department of Education. The next report will be posted 45 days from the date of this report on August 15, 2020.