

## **HEERF I Student Aid (CARES ACT)**

**Valley Grande Institute for Academic Studies** acknowledges an authorized representative of the institution has signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the institution have 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.

**Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** has received or will receive \$211,017.00 from the Department of Education pursuant to the Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

**Valley Grande Institute for Academic Studies** has distributed: **\$211,017.00** under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of **January 8, 2021**.

**Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** has determined an estimated 459 students at the institution are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Consequently, the institution has established a methodology for the prioritized distribution of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible students.

**Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** COVID-19 Emergency funding will be disbursed to students using the following formulas:

Concerned that this cohort of students will could be underemployed or unemployed by economic conditions caused by the pandemic and will lack the financial resources to attend or return to classes for the 20-21 academic year, **Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** is confident that this initiative will help support continuing students to complete their course work, a concept which is consistent with the COVID-19 Grant, created by the Department of Education. Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. Under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, students received awards ranging from **\$250.00 to \$783.00**



**Eligible students will be notified in the following manner:**

As a result of the recent pandemic, the United States government has made emergency funds available to students. **Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** will administer those funds to students that have filled out the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security form and are eligible to receive aid.

From the total allocation that we received of \$211,017, a portion of that will be set aside for future enrolled students. It is the intent of **Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** to allow each student to answer the question of a changing family financial situation due to Coronavirus (including eligible expenses under student's cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care) which will make that student eligible to receive aid. Once all Certification Forms are returned and verified as complete, we will calculate how many students indicate need and divide that number by the total amount of funds that are to be distributed to students. As of now, the best way to calculate this would be as follows:

1. A disbursement of 50% will be issued as soon as possible and the remaining amount will be issued before completion of the program.
2. Students on leave of absence can return, but will follow the same requirements of the other students with program completion.
3. VGI will collect the following information:
  - a. current mailing address
  - b. home address
  - c. current phone number
  - d. next of kin phone number
  - e. current email address

\*\*The only way we can contact them is if we have current information for students.

This emergency student funding is only available to students that are enrolled and attending classes as of 03.23.2020. Students that enroll between the time frame of March 23, 2020, through March 23, 2021 will also be eligible for this grant if they meet criteria and they were affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic.

**Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** feels this is the best way to address and assist the pressing financial need of students as a result of Coronavirus. **Valley Grande Institute for Academic Success** will not discriminate in the disbursement of funds. Students will be notified immediately once check is available for distribution.



Eligible students will receive the following email:

The Department of Education was awarded an emergency grant to assist students who are attending Schools of higher education during the COVID-19 emergency school closing and lockdown social distancing requirements in March of 2020.

The CARES ACT HIGHER ED Grant will be awarded to each approved higher education. The school must determine based on guidelines for how it will disburse the emergency funds to students.

When the school issues checks to students, the student must sign that they will use the funds for one or more of the expenses listed on the CARESACT Certification and Agreement document, for” food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses”. Students also have the opportunity to forego the payment if they have not been financially affected and wish to donate their portion back to the school fund so we can be reallocated to other students who may have a financial hardship.

The school will allocate CARES ACT Emergency Relief funds to students equally, based on the total enrolled students who were attending classes between 03/23/2020 when the school temporarily closed due to COVID-19 lockdown. Future students enrolled up to 03/23/2021 who wish to participate in the grant funding opportunity will also be able to apply. We will divide the number of attending students into the emergency fund grant amount and allocate funds equally to each student. This is grant money and will not have to be repaid.

The school has been advised the government will begin releasing funds and accepting student certifications as of the opening fund date of 05/28/2020. The school applied for the funding on opening day 05/28/2020. Students will receive funds by check mailed to the home address. To assist the school in processing the checks please complete and return the certification form below in page2 of this document.

Valley Grande Institute for Academic Studies CARES HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (HEERF) Distribution Policy Student Certification Form Valley Grande Institute for Academic Studies will be distributing checks to all students from the CARES HEERF fund. The amount of money (checks) distributed to all students will be distributed across the student body evenly to those affected by the COVID-19. Have you been affected by COVID -19?



**VALLEY GRANDE INSTITUTE  
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*Excellence Through Education*

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Please check–mark which answer suits your situation: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes OR \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If yes, fill in the information below:

I, \_\_\_\_\_(student first and last name), certify that I have been affected by COVID-19 and therefore agree to use the funds distributed to me for the following needs: food, housing, course materials, technology, health-care and/or child care expenses as stipulated in the CARES HEERF Policy set forth by the US Department of Education. These funds will not be used for tuition expenses or paying off tuition balances. The funds distributed will be distributed to all students attending Valley Grande Institute for Academic Studies that have certified that they have been affected in any of the above areas without regard to attendance status or percentage. We need this form back from you in order to know who and where to send the distribution checks to. If applicable, please mail my check to:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Street address) \_\_\_\_\_

(City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**As of January 8, 2021, this is our final HEERF I report.**

