

## Student Public Reporting Disclosure for CARES/HEERF grants

### Overview

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 that receive funds under Section 18004 of the Act to submit a report describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”).

Denver Seminary is a recipient of these funds and as such is required to post the information below.

### Acknowledgement

Denver Seminary signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the required [Certification and Agreement](#) on *April 20, 2020*. Denver Seminary intends to utilize no less than 50% of the funding under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Additional CRRSAA were awarded on *January 19, 2021* and *August 4, 2021*

### Emergency Financial Aid Grant Allocation

Denver Seminary was allocated under [Section 18004 \(a\)\(1\)](#) and CRRSAA a total of \$763,682. The student allocation portion totals \$336,369. Of this total, \$137,774 was used to fund Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students. The additional \$198,595 awarded in August 2021 was used to fund additional Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students.

On April 23, 2020, Denver Seminary received (via a G5 system Grant Award Notification) its first HEERF student allocation. Denver Seminary’s process is to obtain and utilize these funds directly from the G5 system as they are paid to students. This same process occurred when the second round of funding was received (via a G5 system Grant Award Notification) on January 19, 2021. Final funds will be drawn after this reporting cycle as all awards have been dispensed.

### Methodology for Awarding

The funds are targeted to provide students a check to cover their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenses may include food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, emergency travel expenses, and childcare/elder care.

Grants have been awarded to students based on guidelines from the US Department of Education. To be considered eligible, students have to be eligible for federal student financial aid as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), be on active status and have been enrolled in a residential program for the first round or any residential or online program for the second round. Per these guidelines, 231 students for the first round in Spring

2020 and 326 students were eligible in Spring 2021. The guidelines have since changed and all students were allowed to participate in the final awarding review.

Following the federal government's recommendation to prioritize students with the greatest need, Denver Seminary made awarding decisions accordingly. Under the established rubric of those with the lowest EFC who did not receive substantial financial aid, 99 qualifying students were identified for the one-time CARES Grant of \$700 in Spring 2020. A total of \$69,300 was disbursed in June 2020. Utilizing a similar rubric, 192 qualifying students were identified for a one-time emergency grant in Spring 2021. The amounts were \$500 for students in 6 or more credits and \$250 for those enrolled in less than 6 credits. A total of \$85,000 was disbursed in April 2021. Under an expanded rubric, still based on greatest need, 135 qualifying students were identified for a one-time emergency grant in Fall 2021. The amounts were \$1,000 for students in 6 or more credits and \$550 for those enrolled in less than 6 credits. A total of \$157,500 was disbursed in October 2021.

Students did not have to complete a separate application to receive the CARES Grant, and no additional action on the part of the recipients was required except for address verification. Funds were sent directly to the student and not credited to any balance owed on their Denver Seminary student account.

An additional application was also available for students to self-identify and verify their need in Fall 2021, if they did not fall within the original rubric. Based on applications, 28 students received awards between \$500-\$2,000, for a total of \$34,250, in December 2021. A final 3 students received awards in January 2022, totaling \$4,500.

## **Communication**

The U.S. Department of Education also requires Denver Seminary to publish information about instructions, directions, or guidance provided to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Information, including a link to this disclosure, was provided to all students who were active in the Spring 2020 term via email on June 15, 2020. Student recipients of the grant also received an additional email to let them know their status, anticipated check date, and if any additional address verification was required.

Student recipients of the second round of funding also received an additional email to let them know their status, anticipated check date, and if any additional address verification was required.

All students were notified by the Financial Aid office regarding the final awarding. This included those who received the award based on the rubric and everyone else to alert to the separate application available to self-identify. A cross-departmental committee was formed with representation from Financial Aid, Financial Services, and Student Life to review all applications and determine awarding.

