

CARES Act Updates: Victor Valley College

See distribution plan and Information about grants disbursed in report below.

February 17, 2021

The College received Round Two HEERF funds, including \$17m Institutional funds and \$4m Student financial grant funding.

The CARES Act application will remain open throughout the Spring, 2021 semester.

Funds will be prioritized to students who are registered, making progress toward a goal, and complete an application. Awards are made based on the number of units in which a student is enrolled.

12+ units = \$500; 9 – 11 units = \$400; 3 – 8 units = \$300

Course materials and supplies = up to \$300

Maximum per student: \$500 per month, \$1000 per semester

The college is committed to providing financial grants as long as funding is available. Communication with students about their grants will be made via student vvc.edu email.

For the Spring, 2021 semester, the following calendar has been established to distribute \$4 million HEERF (Round Two) CARES Act student financial grants and \$507,734 MSI funds available to help students with course materials. The application will remain open throughout the semester. Students can use the following schedule to plan their grants based on the guidelines listed above.

DEADLINE	PAYMENT
Applications received by this date:	Can expect their grant by this date: (via Bank Mobile*)
2/18	2/25/21
3/3	3/12/21
3/31	4/10/21
4/14	4/24/21
5/12	5/21/21

February 11, 2021

Victor Valley College anticipates additional funding from the Federal government and will publish a schedule of distributions throughout the semester once that funding is finalized.

Until then, Victor Valley College has a \$507,734 Minority Serving Institution grant and remaining 2020 funds that will be made available to students in the beginning of the Spring semester to ensure students have the books, access codes, computers, supplies, food, and other basic needs necessary to allow them to attend their classes, do their schoolwork, and complete their class(es).

The vvc.edu application will be open February 11 and for as long as funds are available. Initial deadline is **February 18 at noon** for first distribution the following week. Communication with students about their grants will be made via student vvc.edu email.

December 10, 2020

The final distribution of CARES Act financial aid grants for 2020 was made on December 10. Remaining funds will be made available to students for the Spring semester.

November 20, 2020

Students who continue to attend VVC classes and students who register for Winter/Spring classes can apply for CARES Act financial grants to assist with books, access codes, laptops, and/or basic needs. Applications will be reviewed the first week in December for distribution the week of December 7.

Fall, 2020

Students have the opportunity to apply for CARES Act financial grants for books, access codes, laptops, and/or basic needs support. Grants will be distributed the week of September 7 and throughout October.

August 10, 2020 Update

The application for CARES Act and Foundation financial aid grants is available on the vvc.edu website. Early review of applications will be made August 18 for first distribution early in the Fall semester. The application will remain available through the semester as long as funds are available for distribution.

In addition, 500 laptops with TMobile internet connectivity have been made available with the college share of CARES Act funds. Students can indicate their need on the CARES Act portion of the website using the on-line application. First review will be August 18.

July 16, 2020 Update

Victor Valley College disbursed an additional \$240,700 to 533 students, as described in Phase II below. The VVC Foundation distributed an additional \$38,600 to 386 students who applied as non-FAFSA eligible students.

18 June, 2020 Update

Victor Valley College disbursed an additional \$651,600 to 1494 students, as described in Phase II below.

With the eligibility of these funds no longer restricted to Title IV eligibility and immigration status*, the college will re-evaluate all current applicants and all students previously not awarded because of eligibility restrictions. We will make additional disbursements to those students who are now eligible.

These funds are provided to students who incur costs because of disruptions to learning and life disruptions as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The cash grants are intended to cover costs related to the current public emergency and should not be considered a “public benefit.”

- Students who have lost income due to campus jobs being suspended should seek relief for lost earnings through federal or state-funded COVID-19 related unemployment benefits rather than CARES Act emergency financial aid grants, because unemployment benefits are excluded from public charge determinations
- Non-citizen students concerned about potential public charge consequences should consult with an immigration attorney. Legal resources for undocumented students are identified on the Chancellor’s Undocumented Students page
<https://www.cccco.edu/Students/Support-Services/Special-population/Undocumented-Students>

* On June 17, 2020 the United States District Court for the Northern District of California issued a preliminary injunction in the case entitled *Oakley v. DeVos*, Northern District of California Case No. 4:20-cv-03215 prohibiting the United States Department of Education from imposing any student eligibility restrictions on CARES Act funds provided by Congress.

21 May, 2020

Victor Valley College signed a Certificate of Agreement to receive \$8 million from the U.S.

Department of Education through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”) to support students and cover additional institutional expenses related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

\$4 million of this funding will be disbursed directly to eligible students to cover expenses related to the pandemic, disruption of the semester, and/or transfer to a remote learning platform.

- ~~Per Federal Regulations and criteria established in the CARES Act, only students who meet basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid, and who are enrolled as of March 13, 2020 in face to face classes can be considered for these funds.~~
- ~~At VVC, currently 6,648 students receive federal financial aid.~~

~~To be eligibility for Federal Financial Aid, students must:~~

- ~~pursue a degree or certificate program that is eligible for Federal Financial Aid (ie. → 16 hours), and~~
- ~~register with Selective Service (Male students who are over the age of 18), and~~
- ~~possess a valid social security number, and~~
- ~~have a High School completion (diploma), GED, or homeschool certification, and~~
~~_____ must have met Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements, and~~
~~_____ students cannot be in loan repayment default or grant overpayment.~~

Recognizing that many of our students who are experiencing difficulties caused by COVID-19 may not be eligible to apply for Federal Financial Aid, the college has also identified \$250,000 in grant dollars (thanks in large part to our VVC Foundation). Students will only be able to apply for grant funds from one funding source.

DISTRIBUTION PLAN AND REPORT		
Both CARES Act and Institutional funds will be distributed to students in phases:		
WHAT	WHEN	HOW
Phase I: \$1,391,900 distributed to 3,196 current FA students with “0” EFC, 6+ units, and meets SAP	* Awards have been posted to student FA accounts; funds were distributed May 21, 2020	* Check your FA account at WebAdvisor

<p>Phase II: Funds will be distributed from two sources to students who complete an application form and indicate pandemic related need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. \$1,500,000 CARES Act funds to FA eligible students b. \$250,000 Institutional funds available to all VVC students whose classes were moved to remote learning and are struggling to successfully complete their classes (used for student financial aid grants, Chromebooks, housing and food support) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * \$651,600 was distributed on June 10 to 1494 Title IV eligible students who applied for a financial aid emergency grant. * \$68,800 was distributed to 160 students on June 25 with additional funds. * \$239,800 was distributed on July 14 to 536 additional applicants for a financial aid emergency grant. * \$22,500 was distributed to 48 students on July 27 with additional funds. * An additional \$38,600 in \$100 gift cards was distributed to 386 non-FAFSA eligible students who applied for a financial aid emergency grant. * The Application form continues to be available on the front page of the vvc.edu webpage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Awards will be made to students who indicate a need based on pandemic disruption, as funds allow. * Awards amounts are based on enrolled units: \$500 12+ units \$400 9 – 11 units \$300 3 – 10 units * We aim to accommodate every eligible student who indicates a need.
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<p>Phase III: Funds will be distributed from two sources to students who complete an application form and indicate need for assistance for the Fall semester.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. \$1,000,000 CARES Act funds to FA eligible students (plus remaining funds from Phases I and II) b. \$502,567 CARES Act – MSI (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Minority Serving Institutions grant) c. 500 laptops with TMobile internet connection for two years (to access, students must submit application via CARES Act on the vvc.edu website) 	<p>* Application will be available in early August, for the Fall 2020 semester.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$437,200.00 was disbursed on September 9 to 1,049 students who demonstrated financial need based on their application. • \$342,395.00 was disbursed on October 7 to 830 students who demonstrated financial need based on their application. • \$321,900.00 was distributed on October 22 to 711 students who indicated a need for books, book vouchers, laptops, and/or basic need based on their application. • \$4,500.00 was distributed to 9 students who were awarded grants based on their identified need. • \$440,500 was distributed on December 10, 2020 to 881 students who submitted applications and/or who were 	
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	<p>recommended by faculty.</p>	
<p>Phase IV: Remaining 2020 funds will be used for Spring, 2021</p> <p>\$ 169,705 remaining CARES Act funds</p> <p>\$507,734 Minority Serving Institution Grant (HEERF funds)</p> <p>\$4 million HEERF (Round Two) funds arrived February 17, 2021</p>	<p>First grant deadline: February 18 at noon</p> <p>First distribution: Week of Feb 25</p> <p>See detailed schedule on CARES Act webpage</p>	<p>* Awards will be made to registered students who are making progress toward their goal and who indicate a need, as funds allow.</p> <p>* Awards amounts are based on enrolled units: \$500 12+ units \$400 9 – 11 units \$300 3 – 10 units</p> <p>* We aim to accommodate every eligible student who indicates a need.</p>