Simpson College is eligible to receive funds under section 18004 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020) Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”). CARES Act requires institutions to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received from Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

Simpson College has complied with the requirements of the CARES Act, as follows:

1) Simpson College has completed and returned to the Department of Education the appropriate signed Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution 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.

2) Simpson College has received $726,525.00 from the Department of Education pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

3) As of May 22, 2020, Simpson College has distributed a total of $122,615.45 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

4) An estimated total number of 1,100 students at Simpson College are 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 Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

5) As of May 22, 2020, the total number of Simpson College students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 136.

6) Simpson College utilized the following method to determine which students would receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

   a) Request that students submit an application for funds to offset expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care). Applicants were required to specify the dollar amount they requested based on their incurred expenses and to provide receipts for technology-related expenses.

   b) Verify applicants’ eligibility according to Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.
c) Starting on May 11, 2020, a review committee (comprised of the Assistant Vice President of Enrollment and Financial Assistance, the Associate Director of Financial Aid, the Director of Foundation and Government Support Programs, and a campus housing Area Coordinator) evaluated each application to determine whether expenses reported by the student were allowable and the amount of the grant each student would receive, if any. Emergency Financial Aid Grants applications were reviewed on a first come-first, first-serve basis.

d) Following evaluation of the applications, Emergency Financial Aid Grants funds disbursed on a first come-first, first-serve basis.

7) All students enrolled at Simpson College as of March 13, 2020 received email communication with instructions on how to apply for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants. The application for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants was made available in electronic form on the students’ campus portal. Students were informed by email regarding the outcome of their applications’ review, whether they received funds, and in which amount, if any. Students were informed that CARES Emergency Grants were for the sole and exclusive purpose of providing emergency grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses. Students were also made aware that:

- Funds are limited.
- Requests must be related to COVID 19 and the disruption of campus operations.
- High School students are not eligible.
- These funds do not need to be repaid.
- Students must have been enrolled in face-to-face coursework on March 13, 2020.
- These funds cannot be applied directly to your student account at the college.
- Students must be Title IV eligible to receive CARES Emergency Grant Funding.