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From: TheGovSays
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 9:12 AM
To: registered@my.apsu.edu; Faculty & Staff
Subject: CARES Act update for APSU students

Dear Austin Peay Students:

Congress recently approved the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which provided funds to colleges and universities for emergency student grants. The CARES Act made two types of funding available to the university.

The **Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)** specifies the funds are to be awarded to students for the sole and exclusive purpose of providing emergency financial aid grants to eligible students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care expenses. Documentation of these expenses will not be required.

The Department of Education guidelines for distribution of HEERF state only undergraduate and graduate students who are eligible to receive Federal Title IV aid can be awarded these emergency funds. This means students must have a valid 2019-20 FAFSA on file with APSU or be eligible to file a FAFSA. Federal guidance further clarifies HEERF may not be distributed to international, DACA or undocumented students or to **any** student who was exclusively taking online courses prior to March 13, 2020.

Austin Peay will provide funds to all eligible students. The University will prioritize distribution of HEERF to our Pell Grant-eligible students while also providing funding to non-Pell Grant-eligible students who qualify.

The second type of funding is called a **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)**. The Department of Education has relaxed some of the usual restrictions on FSEOG funds in order to provide emergency funds to a broader base of students. The FSEOG has the same guidelines as HEERF, except students who were exclusively taking online courses prior to March 13, 2020, may receive these emergency funds.

Austin Peay will begin distributing FSEOG funds on May 8. Distribution of the HEERF funds will occur during the week of May 11. An email will be sent to your Austin Peay email account with specific information. In addition, details will be available on our COVID-19 site at www.apsu.edu/coronavirus.

We are reserving additional funds for students who may meet Federal Title IV eligibility requirements, but who have not already filed a valid FAFSA. We are awaiting further guidance from the Department of Education about options for students to meet requirements if the student does not currently have a valid FAFSA on file.

We are working to get these funds to you as quickly as possible.

Rex Gandy
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

