

CARES ACT Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds Disclosure
San Joaquin Valley College (OPEID 02120700) – Updated 10/15/20

As an institution of higher learning participating in the Title IV Federal Financial Aid Program, San Joaquin Valley College has been allocated Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, that was signed into law by President Trump on March 27, 2020.

According to the Department of Education’s methodology, San Joaquin Valley College (which includes branch campuses in Atascadero, CA, Bakersfield, CA, Delano, CA, Fresno, CA, Fresno Trades Education Center, Hanford, CA, Hesperia, CA Lancaster, CA, Madera, CA, Porterville, CA, Ontario, CA, Rancho Cordova, CA, Rancho Mirage, CA, Salida, CA, Santa Maria, CA, and Temecula, CA.) is eligible to receive \$12,014,128 in funds. The Department’s methodology for institutional grants can be found at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerf90percentformulaallocationexplanation.pdf>

On April 21, San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) agreed to receive the first half of available funds (\$6,052,064), and certified that all of those funds will be made directly available to eligible students via emergency aid grants. This grant aid is intended to reimburse students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course material, technology, health care and child-care expenses.

Eligible students are defined as individuals that meet four key conditions:

- 1) The student is eligible for Federal Financial Aid;
- 2) The student was enrolled in a campus-based or blended program at an SJVC campus as of March 13, 2020 and was still attending or an approved leave of absence on March 31, 2020;
- 3) The student has signed a statement attesting to their having incurred qualified expenses, such as food, housing, course material, technology, health care and child-care expenses;
- 4) The student was currently attending as of the date the attestation was returned to SJVC, graduated from the program that they were enrolled in on the date of the disruption, or were on an approved Leave of Absence which started after March 13, 2020.

As of September 30, 2020, SJVC has issued \$6,126,300 in Emergency Grant Awards to 3,725 students.

This exceeds the total student portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, with the overage paid from the institutional portion of the CARES Act Award.

These funds have been issued in two rounds, with the initial Emergency Grant amounts determined such that all eligible students would receive an award, with Pell Grant Recipients receiving award equal to 150% that of non-Pell Grant Recipients. Not all eligible students completed the Attestation Form. Also, some students’ checks were returned as undeliverable or were marked as expired after they showed as uncashed in the bank ledger. In each case, the College made a concerted effort to contact these students via phone, email and text for a forwarding address. Any unclaimed funds were returned to the general pool for a second round of Emergency Grant Awards.

The second round of awards was coordinated by a CARES Act Committee consisting of college faculty and administrators representing several campuses and the central office. They developed a CARES Needs Survey that assigned award amounts based upon each respondents claim of decreased household

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income and/or an increased monthly expense related to health care costs, and/or increased monthly expenses related to child care costs. Students claiming one area of need received a base award, with those claiming two areas of need receiving a base award plus 25% and those claiming three receiving a base award plus 50%. Students claiming no areas of need were determined to not receive a second award.

Award checks are still in the process of being printed and delivered to students. The total award amount may decrease as some students' awards are returned as undeliverable and students fall out of communication, as occurred in the first round of awards; however, the college is confident that more than the allotted student portion will have been issued to students after the final accounting.