

June 23, 2020

## Osceola Technical College CARES Act

Osceola Technical College (oTECH) has received funds from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The CARES Act established and funded the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to provide emergency financial aid grants intended to assist college students with expenses incurred due to the disruption of campus operations. These funds will be disbursed to students to assist with food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, and childcare costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus.

oTECH signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement Form. Our institution will use 70 percent of the funds received under Section 1800(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. In accordance with the federal CARES Act, oTECH's total HEERF allocation is \$590,003 of which \$413,002 will be awarded to students as emergency financial aid grants in the amount of at least \$500 each.

Following guidelines from the US Department of Education, oTECH will disburse these financial aid grants to students whose learning was disrupted as a result of campus closures which resulted in instruction being delivered remotely. Students who were enrolled exclusively in an online program prior to the declared emergency, are not eligible for these financial aid grants.

Students may be eligible for the grant if they meet all the criteria listed below:

- Enrolled in an on-campus and/or hybrid/blended Career and Technical Education (CTE) certificate program as of March 16, 2020, even if the student has subsequently completed their CTE program at oTECH at the time of grant application.
- Completed a 2019-2020 FAFSA application and met all eligibility requirements for Title IV financial aid OR are eligible to complete a FAFSA application\*.
- Have been financially impacted due to disruption of campus operations caused by COVID-19.
- Possess a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma issued from an accredited school.
- Be a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible noncitizen.
- Have a Social Security Number verified through the FAFSA process.
- If a male between the age of 18-25, have Selective Service registration verified.
- Be making satisfactory academic progress.
- Not owe an overpayment on Title IV grants or loans.
- Not be in default on a Title IV loan.
- Have returned fraudulently obtained Title IV funds if convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to charges.
- Not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits.

- Have repaid Title IV loan amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits if obtained inadvertently.
- Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations.

*\*If you have not completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application and wish to be considered for one of these financial aid grants, go to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) to complete the online application. Please make sure you use oTECH's Federal School Code of 031279 and submit all required documents to be eligible for Title IV aid before being considered. How to Apply for Financial Aid Instructions can be found on our [website](#).*

*As of June 23, 2020, oTECH has not yet distributed any funds to students. We invite qualifying students to apply for funds [online](#). The deadline for submission is October 15, 2020. If funds are exhausted prior to 10/15/20, oTECH will close the application.*