

Dear Southwestern Parent,

Southwestern University is pleased to announce the availability of emergency grants for students from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). These funds have been made available through the CARES Act, and provides direct emergency financial aid grants to students. In total, the University was allocated \$606,725 in HEERF funding for direct assistance to students.

Guidance from the US Department of Education indicates that these funds are intended to assist eligible students who were enrolled at Southwestern during Spring 2020 or who participated in an approved study abroad program, with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due the COVID-19 epidemic. The US Department of Education asked Southwestern to prioritize students with the greatest need, and develop policies that help to distribute these funds as widely as possible.

Students who do not meet Title IV eligibility requirements (such as international students or non-US citizens who are not eligible for Title IV funds) but have emergency funding needs may still submit a HEERF application to be considered for emergency grant funding from the Southwestern Emergency Fund.

Southwestern will use a hybrid approach to determine the amount of HEERF grant that a student will receive, where students meeting certain criteria will automatically receive an award in a set amount, with the remainder of students submitting an application to be considered for funding.

A student's Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) as determined through the 2019-2020 FAFSA will be used to assign that student to an award tier.

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA</b>	<b>AWARD AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPLICATION REQUIRED?</b>
Tier 1	EFC Range: \$0-5,576	\$1,000	No
Tier 2	EFC Range: \$5,577-20,994	\$750	No
		Variable amounts, not to exceed \$750.	
Tier 3	EFC above \$20,994 or no FAFSA on file	The actual amount a student receives will be based upon information provided through an application, the number of applicants, and the available funds.	Yes. Students in this tier may submit the <a href="#">SU HEERF Grant Application</a> by June 3.

Students in Tier One and Tier Two will receive additional information at their Southwestern email

address. Students in Tier Three who wish to apply for funds should review the information provided in their email and on the FAQ page and apply by June. 3. Students are encouraged to set up direct deposit to expedite the payment of the funds.

Southwestern is pleased to be able to assist students during this challenging time. Questions regarding the HEERF Grants may be directed to the following offices:

Questions regarding general HERFF eligibility, the FAFSA, and Title IV eligibility:

SU Financial Aid Office

512.863.1259 or [finaid@southwestern.edu](mailto:finaid@southwestern.edu)

Questions regarding general HERFF eligibility and direct deposits:

SU Business Office

512.863.1928 or [studentaccounts@southwestern.edu](mailto:studentaccounts@southwestern.edu)

Sincerely,

James Gaeta, Associate Dean of Enrollment Services

Brenda Thompson, Associate Vice President for Accounting and Finance, Controller