April 2022

Sinte Gleska University (SGU) completed the application process for the CARES Act, Section 18004(a)(1), as well as the corresponding CRRSAA and ARPA funds, which provided emergency financial aid grants to students to help ease the costs and expenses related to the disruption of campus operations. SGU did an initial disbursement of $150 per student for the Spring 2020 semester when the COVID-19 pandemic first occurred in March of 2020. After planning discussions were held, a decision was made to use CARES funds for institutional needs to provide as much student support as possible. The support included the purchase and distribution of laptops for all students, tuition support, monthly stipends to cover the cost of internet, food, and mileage for those students who attended face to face classes.

The institution has received $1,124,227.00 in additional emergency student aid, due to COVID-19. These funds were used for each semester, beginning in March of 2020, until the current semester, as student grants to continue to provide an education to our students. As previously mentioned, SGU accomplished this using COVID funding that has been provided to the university. Now, the time has come to disperse the remaining student funding.

For the Spring 2022 semester, emergency financial aid grants will be distributed equally to any students who were enrolled from Summer of 2020 semester to the current semester. There are a total of 1,449 students between our main campus, and the two additional locations (Lower Brule Community College and Ihanktonwan Community College). The methodology used to decide the distribution of these funds, is to disburse it equally to every student who was enrolled since Summer of 2020. This is due to the number of people who are struggling due to the current economic environment, coupled with the fact that our students live on or near an impoverished reservation. Every SGU student will receive an additional $700 to provide greater financial support, in addition to, the numerous efforts already made by the university.

The COVID-19 Emergency Funding is available to students to help pay for food, housing, Internet access, and any other needs which may impact your desire to continue your education during this pandemic. We have a limited amount of money available, and Sinte Gleska University will be identifying all eligible students and making assistance available to them. As a student enrolled in any semester dating back to the Summer of 2020, all students are eligible for this emergency financial aid grant, and no application is necessary. Technically, students who are dual-enrolled, are not collegiate students due to the lack of a high diploma; therefore, they are not eligible for the emergency financial aid grant.