

The Cooper Union 30 Cooper Sq New York, NY, 10003 10/06/2021

## THE COOPER UNION ARP GRANT (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN) FIRST REPORT

Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act" or the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020), directs institutions receiving funds under Section 18004 of the Act to submit (in a time and manner required by the Secretary) a report to the Secretary describing the use of funds distributed from the American Rescue Plan ("ARP").

On June 30, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education posted their reporting requirements for ARP participating institutions.

Each ARP participating institution is responsible for providing this information in report format (the "30-day Fund Report"). In addition, these participating institutions are required to post the information listed below on the institution's primary website. Accordingly, the following information will be easily accessible to the public and made available 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation under 18004(a)(1) and updated every 45 days thereafter.

## The Cooper Union hereby addresses questions for the "45-day Fund Report":

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50

percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

The Cooper Union Response: The Cooper Union completed and submitted the Recipient Funding and Certification Agreement assuring that 50% of the funds would be used as intended to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. The college will receive a total allocation of \$1,022,836. The CARES Grant Committee was established in order to deliver 50% of the funding to students impacted by the COVID - 19 pandemic.

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

**The Cooper Union Response:** The Cooper will Union receive \$1,022,836 in funding to be distributed among its applicants.

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter).

**The Cooper Union Response:** As of October 4, 2021, we have awarded 542 students with total of \$460,750.

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

**The Cooper Union Response:** The college estimates the number of students eligible to participate in the emergency grant program is 875.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

**The Cooper Union Response:** As of October 4, 2021, 542 students have been awarded emergency Financial Aid Grant from the ARP Grant.

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

The Cooper Union Response: According to the guidance in the CARES Act, students who are enrolled for 2021-2022 school year are eligible to receive Emergency Relief Grants, we opened an online application process for the CARES ACT Emergency Grants. All eligible students received an email notice of the COVID-19 Relief Fund Online application process on Monday June 14th 2021. In addition, the application was available on the college's COVID-19 webpage. Students were directed to apply for these grants using an online Application Form. To reduce the application burden for the students who have already filed their FAFSA, we have predetermined awards based on EFC and current FA award availability. The Emergency Relief Grant Committee evaluated each application based on student expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19, including emergency travel, housing, food, course materials, technology, healthcare, and childcare. The review of these applications is on rolling basis, began on Monday, August 9, 2021 and fund distribution will be followed as application reviewing completed till fund exhausted. Other factors considered in the review process included: financial need determined by FAFSA, loss of employment, expenses related to the pandemic and other support received. All applicants received or will receive email notice of their application and fund award status.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

The Cooper Union Response: We maintain a <u>COVID-19 website</u> which provides access to information regarding the Emergency Relief Grants. The website directs users to submit questions to <u>cucovidef@cooper.edu</u>. The email box is monitored daily and questions and/or concerns are responded to promptly. An email to all Cooper students was distributed on June 14, 2021,

providing a detail of the CARES Act and instructions for applying for Emergency Relief Grants.

Information regarding the grants along with a link to the application form was also distributed to students.