



**VALLEY GRANDE INSTITUTE  
FOR ACADEMIC STUDIES**  
*Excellence Through Education*

345 S. Texas Blvd.  
Weslaco, TX 78596  
(956) 973-1945  
Fax (956) 969-4086

The Department of Education was awarded an emergency grant to assist students who are attending schools of higher education during the COVID-19 emergency school closing and lockdown social distancing requirements in March of 2020.

The CARES ACT HIGHER ED Grant will be awarded to each approved higher education. The school must determine based on guidelines for how it will disburse the emergency funds to students.

When the school issues checks to students, the student must sign that they will use the funds for one or more of the expenses listed on the CARES ACT Certification and Agreement document, for "food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses". Students also have the opportunity to forego the payment if they have not been financially affected and wish to donate their portion back to the school fund so we it can be reallocated to other students who may have a financial hardship.

The school will allocate CARES ACT Emergency Relief funds to students equally, based on the total enrolled students who were attending classes between 03/23/2020 when the school temporarily closed due to COVID-19 lockdown. Future students enrolled up to 03/23/2021 who wish to participate in the grant funding opportunity, will also be able to apply. We will divide the number attending students into the emergency fund grant amount and allocate funds equally to each student. This is grant money and will not have to be repaid.

The school has been advised the government will begin releasing funds and accepting student certifications as of the opening fund date of 05/28/2020. The school applied for the funding on opening day 05/28/2020. Students will receive funds by check mailed to the home address. To assist the school in processing the checks please complete and return the certification form below in page 2 of this document.



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VALLEY GRANDE INSTITUTE FOR ACADEMIC STUDIES  
HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND POLICY  
Student Certification Form

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Valley Grande Institute for Academic Studies will be distributing checks to students from the CARES HEERF fund. The amount of money (checks) will be distributed to enrolled students affected by the COVID-19.

Have you been affected by COVID-19? Please check-mark which answer suits your situation:

\_\_\_ YES or \_\_\_ No

If yes, the information below needs to be completed:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's last name, first name in print), certify that I have been affected by COVID-19 and therefore agree to use the funds distributed to me for the following needs: food, housing, course materials, technology, health-care and/or child care expenses as stipulated in the CARES HEERF POLICY SET FORTH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

These funds will not be used for tuition expenses or paying off tuition balances.

The funds distributed will be issued to students attending Valley Grande Institute that have certified that they have truly been affected in any of the above areas without regard to attendance status or percentage.

We will need this form back from you in order to know when and where to distribute check to.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Student Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Mailing Address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (City, State, Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ School Rep. Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date