

June 11, 2020

Universidad de  
Puerto Rico  
en Carolina

Richard Gaona  
U.S. Department of Education  
Lyndon Baines Johnson Building  
Program Officer, Hispanic-Serving Institutions Division  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW 260-12  
Washington, DC 20202  
202-453-6077

**RE: FIRST REPORT FOR GAN NUMBER P425E202891**

**Dear Sir Gaona:**

Below we present the first report in relation to the funds awarded with the number such **P425E202891** to the University of Puerto Rico at Carolina.

**General Information**

Due to the declaration of the pandemic caused by COVID-19, the Federal Government created the “Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)”. The purpose is to allocate funds for different government agencies to provide aid during the emergency.

The law’s section that applies to postsecondary education institutions is the “Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

The University of Puerto Rico at Carolina has the approval to participate. Money will be provided directly to students to meet their needs related to the suspension of classroom courses. In addition, institutional services will be improved to offer online courses and assisted distance education through the acquisition of softwares and equipments.

As part of our responsibilities, we are required to report regularly the uses of funds to the President of the UPR and the authorities of the Federal Department of Education.

**Budget**

Carolina received an allocation of \$4,491,903 of which it is required that at least 50% (\$2,245,952) be used for financial aid directly to students. The remaining half of the institution’s budget will be invested in infrastructure, materials and equipment to improve our services.

The Department of Education will have the funds available and the institution is responsible for requesting the funds as needed.

**Students**

To determine the amount to be awarded, because the pandemic was decreed during the second quarter term, the total number of students enrolled in that academic period was used. In addition, those students who enrolled in the third quarter term who were not in the second were considered. These students confirmed their enrollment during the recess of face-to-face classes and are eligible if they meet the other requirements of the Department of Education.



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To receive the money, the student must meet the requirements of section 484 of the Higher Education Act. In addition, they must complete the Certification of financial need caused by Covid-19 and the suspension of face to face classes.

All eligible students will receive \$800 by check to their postal addresses or direct deposit to their bank account.

Once the eligibility of all students who submitted the Certification of Need have been verified, if there are funds available, these will be distributed equally to all students who received the \$800. In this way, the university ensures that it meets the requirement of granting 50% of the budget to students.

### **Institution**

The commitment of the UPR in Carolina is to expose the students to the necessary tools that facilitate access to a quality university education.

With the funds assigned to the institution, our goals are:

- 1- Improve programming and online infrastructure.
- 2- Provide education to the Faculty to continue developing in the area of online and distance education.
- 3- Update online courses and distance technology-assisted face-to-face courses.

The processes to achieve our goals will be carried out with the necessary speed and complying with all the institutional, state and federal regulatory requirements.

### **Use of Funds:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Students	\$ 2,245,952	\$ 1,753,600	\$ 492,352
Institution	\$ 2,245,951	\$ 0	\$ 2,245,951
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 4,491,903</b>	<b>\$ 1,753,600</b>	<b>\$ 2,738,303</b>

### **Students Budget:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Amount</b>
5-19-2020	1,760	\$1,408,000
5-29-2020	335	268,000
6-5-2020	54	43,200
6-12-2020	43	34,400
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,192</b>	<b>\$1,753,600</b>

If you need additional information you can contact me at the email [jorge.valentin2@upr.edu](mailto:jorge.valentin2@upr.edu)

Cordially,



Jorge Valentín Asencio, Ph.D.  
Chancellor, UPR Carolina

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