



OFFICE OF POLICY, PROCEDURES, AND TRAINING

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POLICY BULLETIN #20-38-ELI

EXEMPTION OF CUNY CHANCELLOR’S EMERGENCY RELIEF GRANT AND CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES ACT) HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND AS INCOME OR A RESOURCE

<p>Date: July 8, 2020</p>	<p>Subtopic(s): Cash Assistance, CA, SNAP, Income, Resources</p>
	<p>The purpose of this policy bulletin is to inform both Job Center and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Center staff, as well as ancillary staff that assist in processing Cash Assistance (CA) and SNAP cases, that the City University of New York (CUNY) Chancellor’s Emergency Relief Grant and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund are exempt as income and a resource for both CA and SNAP.</p> <p>CUNY has established the Chancellor’s Emergency Relief Grant Program in response to the serious financial hardships many CUNY students and their families face as a result of the COVID-19 emergency. The program will provide one-time \$500 grants to qualifying CUNY students, including undocumented immigrants and student parents, to help cover their basic living expenses as the pandemic and its economic consequences continue to unfold.</p> <p>After the President’s declaration of a national emergency on March 27, 2020, the CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund was enacted to provide funds to institutions to provide emergency financial aid grants to eligible students whose lives have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Staff must ensure that these grants are not calculated as part of a CA or SNAP budget, nor considered a resource when determining eligibility or continued eligibility for CA and SNAP cases. They are one-time grants to deal with a specific crisis.</p> <p>If a CUNY student or person attending another institution of higher education, or their household, reports either of these grants, staff must enter a case comment that the student received the grant and ensure any documentation provided is entered into the HRA OneViewer. However, they must not be budgeted.</p>

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCEDURE?
 Call 718-557-1313 then press 3 at the prompt followed by 1 or
 send an e-mail to *FIA Call Center Fax* or fax to: (917) 639-0298

For additional information on the CUNY Chancellor's Emergency Relief Grant Program, staff may visit:

<https://www.cuny.edu/emergencyfund/faq/>

For more information about the CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, staff may visit:

<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/heerf/index.html>

Effective Immediately

References:

<https://www.cuny.edu/emergencyfund/faq/> - Chancellor's Emergency Relief Grant Program - FAQs
SNAP federal regulations - 7 CFR273.9(c)(8).