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Dear Gulf Coast Student,

As you know, the Department of Education has provided Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds to colleges to provide emergency financial aid grants (CARES Grant) to assist students with expenses related the disruption of campus activities due to the COVID-19 Crisis.

In order to receive a CARES grant, students must be eligible for Title IV aid as stated in Section 484 of the Higher Education Act. Eligibility is determined most commonly by filing a Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA). Last week, we let you know that we were unable to provide you with a CARES Grant because you had not filed or completed a FAFSA. We provided the opportunity for you to complete the FASFA or complete a Certification of Eligibility. To date, we have not received either on your behalf. **If you wish to be considered for a CARES Grant, please complete one or the other by June 1, 2020.**

Please be aware that submitting a FAFSA rather than a Certification of Eligibility may qualify you for a larger grant. Students may submit either a FAFSA or a Certification of Eligibility to determine eligibility for a cares grant, not both. Once a Certification of Eligibility is received, the FAFSA will not be used to determine eligibility.

[Certification of Eligibility](#)