

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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August 14, 2020

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TO: Presidents and Chancellors
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FROM: Harrison Keller, Ph.D. 
Commissioner of Higher Education

SUBJECT: \$57 Million in GEER funding for student financial aid

I am pleased to share the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is now in receipt of the \$57 million that was recently announced to support students with financial need at Texas public and independent institutions of higher education. This funding, which was awarded through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, will preserve FY20-21 funding for the TEXAS Grant, Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG), and Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) programs. Updated institutional allocations of funding and other necessary information will be provided directly to financial aid offices so institutions may complete these awards to students.

The COVID-19 crisis has caused tremendous hardships for Texas students, colleges and universities, and our private-sector economy. We know higher education offers a remedy for the financial pain many Texans are now experiencing, and will offer a path toward a stronger, more resilient workforce once this crisis recedes.

The Coordinating Board has worked in close partnership with Governor Abbott and legislative leadership to find ways to support Texas higher education and make targeted investments to assist students and institutions during this challenging time. We appreciate their support as we work together to navigate current challenges and accelerate the Texas recovery.

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