



American Council on Education  
CARES Act Simulation

# PROJECTED IMPACT OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND ON NEW ENGLAND'S COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

ACE's simulation was conducted using data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The simulation used IPEDS data from the 2017-18 academic year, the most recent year of fully available data. It uses variables including 12-month FTE enrollments of undergraduate and graduate students, full-year number of Pell Grant recipients, numbers of undergraduate and graduate students who were exclusively enrolled in distance education courses.

"Independent Colleges & Universities", used below, refers only to private, nonprofit HEIs. For profit HEIs are only accounted for in the regional and state total in-flow estimates. To see estimates for individual New England institutions, click [here](#).

State	Sector	ACE Projection of HEI Distributions
<b>Connecticut</b> Total: \$135 million	2-year Publics	\$29,339,000
	4-year Regionals	\$5,307,000
	UConn Campuses	\$21,127,000
	Independent Colleges & Universities	\$40,463,000
<b>Maine</b> Total: \$40 million	ME Community College System	\$9,138,000
	UMaine System	\$18,740,000
	Independent Colleges & Universities	\$10,475,000
<b>Massachusetts</b> Total: \$290 million	2-year Publics	\$50,057,000
	4-year Regionals	\$51,465,000
	UMass System	\$16,910,000
	Independent Colleges & Universities	\$137,715,000
<b>New Hampshire</b> Total: \$42 million	2-year Publics	\$6,156,000
	4-year Regionals	\$16,962,000
	University of New Hampshire	\$7,271,000
	Independent Colleges & Universities	\$14,456,000
<b>Rhode Island</b> Total: \$61 million	Community College of RI	\$9,708,000
	RI College	\$4,779,000
	University of RI	\$1,426,000
	Independent Colleges & Universities	\$28,572,000
<b>Vermont</b> Total: \$23 million	Community College of VT	\$1,345,000
	VT State Colleges	\$9,837,000
	University of VT	\$4,365,000
	Independent Colleges & Universities	\$8,371,000

**\$591 M**  
*Total estimated in-flow to region's HEIs*

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**\$2.4 M**  
*Average amount per Title IV, degree-granting HEI*

The CARES Act, passed by Congress and signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020, creates an Education Stabilization Fund, to which nearly \$31 billion is allocated.

Up to \$17 billion could be used to help higher education weather the COVID-19 storm. However, a guaranteed \$12.5 billion will flow from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund to higher education institutions based on a formula that considers full-time enrollment of Pell and non-Pell students who are not exclusively enrolled in distance education courses.

These funds will be distributed by the Secretary of Education using the same systems as Title IV funds. They can be used to defray expenses related to responding to COVID-19. However, 50% of the amount received by an institution must be used to provide emergency aid to students for expenses related to disruption of campus operations.

A provision of the law requires that states include assurances of maintaining higher education support through FY21 based on the average levels of support in the three preceding fiscal years.

However, there remains valid concern that institutions, especially small independent colleges, will not be able to make up for necessary outflows -- including room and board refunds -- and other forgone revenues with the distributions of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund alone. NEBHE estimates that, on average, each independent college will issue over \$7 million in room and board refunds.