

## RE: IMPORTANT: FORBES REQUEST FOR COMMENT

Mark Schlueb <Mark.Schlueb@ucf.edu>

Fri 5/1/2020 8:49 AM

To: Adam Andrzejewski <Adam@openthebooks.com>

Cc: Rachel Williams <Rachel.Williams@ucf.edu>; Heather Smith <Heather.Smith@ucf.edu>

Hi Adam,

Thanks for reaching out. As I'm sure you know, the University of Central Florida doesn't fall in the list of universities with the largest endowments; ours is \$163 million. UCF prides itself on providing access to a [quality, affordable college education](#). One of every four of our students is the first in their family to attend college, and about half of undergrads have transferred from state colleges or other institutions.

CARES Act funding for higher education was allocated based on the number of full-time, in-person students receiving Pell grants – the students with exceptional financial needs. UCF is one of the largest public universities in the country; we had 66,481 students this semester and are typically listed first or second in the country for the size of our student body. In 2019, 40.6 percent of our undergraduates received Pell grants.

Before the pandemic, half of our students worked more than 20 hours a week to help pay for their education. Many of our students have been laid off or furloughed, and many of their parents also have lost their jobs. We're grateful for the CARES Act funding, which will help with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19, such as housing, food, course materials, technology, healthcare and child care.

Hope this helps provide some context.

Best,  
Mark

### Mark Schlueb

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**Coronavirus Updates:** <https://www.ucf.edu/coronavirus/>

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**From:** Adam Andrzejewski <[Adam@openthebooks.com](mailto:Adam@openthebooks.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 2:18 PM

**Subject:** IMPORTANT: FORBES REQUEST FOR COMMENT

My name is Adam Andrzejewski and I'm a senior policy contributor at Forbes. Soon, I'll publish a piece on the coronavirus bailout to America's colleges and universities through the CARES Act. We found 5,137 institutions received \$12.5 billion. Your school was one of the recipients. Our deadline for comment is tomorrow at 1 pm EST on May 1, 2020.

Please respond to the critics who say wealthy institutions of higher education don't need taxpayer help. From the piece:

*The 25 universities with the largest endowments received \$801.3 million in coronavirus subsidies. These wealthy*

*institutions had \$350 billion in their collective endowments.*

Or respond to the simple fact that your institution received large CARES Act funding.

**I'm reaching out because your institution is mentioned along with the amount of CARES Act payment and the value of the school's endowment in 2018-2019.**

Any context, feedback, or comment would be important to our readers at Forbes. **Much appreciated.**

Adam

**Adam Andrzejewski** (say: Angie-eff-ski)

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