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CARL-2

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) 2021 HEERF II Spending Plan

Board of Trustees-CARL Committee

Tina McEntire, Vice Chancellor

March 16, 2021



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CARES Act Funding: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)

HEERF II Allocation

\$9,300,000

Exclusions:

**International Students and Undocumented Students -
per Department of Education (ED) guidance**

Non-degree Students

Institutional Funding Cap

**Students may receive no more the \$3,000
in grant aid from HEERF II Funding**



Guiding Principles

- I. Distribute funds to students with *exceptional need*, in keeping with the goals of the legislation.
- II. Minimize delays in distribution.
- III. Reemploy the simple application used in first round of funding so students can self-identify their need for funding.
- IV. Distribute funds as widely as possible to students in need, including those who meet Title IV criteria but may not have completed a FAFSA application.
- V. Develop award notification communication that encourages students to enroll for the summer and fall terms.



Special Requirements

(provided in the ED guidance)

- CRRSAA requires institutions to prioritize students with *exceptional need*, such as Pell Grant recipients, in awarding financial aid grants to students. Students do not need to be only Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants.
- CRRSAA explicitly provides that financial grants may be provided to students enrolled in distance education programs (turnabout from CARES funding guidelines).
- Institutions may not:
 1. condition the receipt of financial aid grants to students on continued or future enrollment in the institution;
 2. use financial aid grants to directly satisfy a student's outstanding balance *unless student's written or electronic affirmative consent has been obtained*; or
 3. require such consent as a condition or receipt of or eligibility for the financial aid grant.



Distribution of Funding

Method 1: Grant Funding for Pace 30 Initiative

- Award grants to students not on pace to earn 60 hours of credit over 2 years
- Encourage students to take summer courses to stay on pace
- Grant amounts: \$500 for one summer course, \$1,000 for two summer courses



Amount Disbursed
\$1,000,000



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Distribution of Funding

Method 2: Grant funding to Address Outstanding Balances

- Award grants to students with current term balances who are at risk of not being able to pay balance by end of spring term (risk analysis performed to determine which students)
- Award up to \$3,000 to students with prior or current term balances



**Amount Disbursed
\$1,723,000**



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Distribution of Funding

Method 3: Award block grants to students with the most significant financial need

Category	Amount Disbursed	Recipients Awarded
Students with Zero EFC*	\$2,404,500	4,809 Students (4,122 UG 687 GR)
Students who are Pell-eligible	\$1,972,500	3,945 Students (3,526 UG 419 GR)
Total Funding Awarded	\$4,377,000	

*EFC=Estimated Family Contribution as calculated per the FAFSA process. Block grants = \$500.



Distribution of Funding

Method 4: Application-Based Emergency Funding

- Students enrolled for Spring 2021 term are able to apply for emergency funding using simple application process.
- Application opened on February 22, 2021.
- \$500 block grants awarded to eligible students



Amount Disbursed
\$1,600,000



Distribution of Funding

Method 5: Grant Funding for Summer Term Enrollment for Graduate Students

- Block grants awarded to eligible graduate students enrolled in the summer research/summer school to progress to graduation
- Must be careful with wording so that it does not appear that there is requirement for students to enroll in summer term.



Amount Disbursed
\$100,000



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Distribution of Funding

Method 6: Fall Rescue Grants

- Block grants awarded to students at risk of cancellation for non-payment for Fall 2021 term



Amount Disbursed
\$500,000

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