



Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds Round Three First Report

Background HEERF III

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. ARP funds are in addition to funds authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260 and the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136. Emergency funds available to institutions and their students under all emergency funds total \$76.2 billion.

Regis was notified that it was entitled to receive \$7,772,216 to be drawn down as expensed and no further application was required. The ARP designated \$4,042,409 for the minimum student allocation of HEERF III and \$3,729,807 for the institutional allocation.

HEERF III allows the same additional flexibilities afforded institutions through HEERF II and with the additional flexibilities and with the instruction to support students prioritizing those students with exceptional need, the strategy for awarding HEERF III remains very similar to our strategy for HEERF II.

As of June 2021, the total amount of HEERF III student allocation disbursed is \$194,805.05. This report will be updated every 45 days until the entire \$4,042,409 has been disbursed.

Student Eligibility

The CRRSAA opened up the eligibility to receive HEERF II (and unspent HEERF I) funds to all students, including distance education students, except DACA and international students. It also allowed students the ability to authorize the funds to apply to their student account balance. HEERF III kept those same flexibilities and established that all students who are or were enrolled in an institution of higher education during the COVID-19 national emergency are eligible for emergency financial aid grants from the HEERF, regardless of whether they completed a FAFSA or are eligible for Title IV. That includes citizens, permanent residents, refugees, asylum seekers, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) recipients, other DREAMers, and similar undocumented students. International students may also receive HEERF. However, institutions must ensure that funds go to students who have exceptional need. The Department also encourages institutions to prioritize domestic students, especially undergraduates, in allocating this funding. This includes citizens, permanent residents,

refugees, asylum seekers, DACA recipients, other DREAMers, and similar undocumented students. Regis has not yet established an application process for HEERF III but targeted outreach and an application process will be in place after the start of the fall 2021 semester.

Methodology

The methods used by Regis University to determine student eligibility for HEERF III are currently as follows:

Students that reach out to the Regis University Distress Committee are reviewed to see if the student is eligible to receive HEERF III and then funds are awarded accordingly.

A targeted application process will be in place identifying students who are eligible and have exceptional need beginning in the fall.

All income appeals will be reviewed to see if a HEERF III award may be appropriate.

All Financial Aid counselors are reviewing individual circumstances during counseling sessions for potential HEERF III awards.

Notices

Web Posting June 2021:

Did Regis receive any American Rescue Plan (HEERF III) funding?

Yes, On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2 was signed into law, authorizing the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III to provide \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III) are to be distributed to help students with **exceptional financial need** for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs experienced due to the coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care costs.

Institutions must prioritize students with exceptional need when allocating grants.

If you are experiencing financial distress, you may contact the Office of Student Affairs Emergency Funding Committee at studentaffairs@regis.edu to apply for support.

Eligible students: Regis University will provide notice through RegisNet accounts to all students who may be eligible to apply for funding once the application process is established in fall 2021. Students receiving funding will be notified directly through RegisNet accounts and all other applicants will receive a general notice when funds have been depleted.

Directed Email to Potentially Eligible Students:

None at this time.

Personal Email to Student When Application Approved:

None at this time.

Personal Email to Student When Application Approved (Authorization Received):

None at this time.