



Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds Round Three 3rd Quarter 2021 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 again prioritize those students with exceptional need, the strategy for awarding HEERF III remains very similar to our strategy for HEERF II.

As of September 2021, the total amount of HEERF III student allocation disbursed was \$320,860.43 to 170 students. We estimate that 2,511 students are potentially eligible to receive funding. This report will be updated every quarter until the entire \$4,042,409 has been disbursed. All previous student allocations have been distributed.

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. ARP 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 posted notification of the application process for HEERF III on September 24, 2021 and a targeted email communication was sent to all students with an Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) as calculated on the 2021/2022 FAFSA of zero to 15,000. An application priority deadline date of Oct. 8, 2021 has been set. All application received as of that date will be reviewed and a portion of the funds will be distributed and reported on accordingly.

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.

Through the application process, Regis will prioritize the distribution of funds to eligible students demonstrating exceptional need and students are asked to certify their eligibility and describe expenses related to their costs of attendance (e.g. food, housing, course, materials, technology, healthcare, childcare, and transportation). The amount of funding will be based on combination of what the student requested, level of need, and available funding.

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

All Financial Aid counselors have been and continue to review individual circumstances during counseling sessions for potential HEERF III awards.

Notices

Web Posting September 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.

Eligible students: Regis University will provide notice through RegisNet accounts to all students who have a 21/22 FAFSA on file with the Office of Financial Aid and an Estimated Family Contribution of 15,000 or less. Other students who believe they can demonstrate exceptional financial need and might be eligible can [access the HEERF III Application](#). As funding is limited, students will be reviewed for funding based on their financial need as calculated by the FAFSA and the information provided in the application. Students receiving funding will be notified directly through RegisNet accounts and all other applicants will receive a general notice when funds have been depleted.

If you are experiencing financial distress but you do not qualify or do not receive any funding from HEERF III, you may contact the Office of Student Affairs Emergency Funding Committee at studentaffairs@regis.edu to apply for support.

Directed Email to Potentially Eligible Students:



Hi Catherine,

We recently received funding from the U.S. Department of Education as authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP). 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.

This email is to let you know that you *may* be eligible to receive a portion of this funding. If you apply and qualify to receive funding, you may choose to receive funds directly or you may select to have these funds applied to your current balance with the Office of Student Accounts.

To apply, please complete the online application at [HEERF III Application](#).

All applications received by **October 8, 2021** will be reviewed the week of October 11, 2021 and our office will notify you directly if we are able to offer you HEERF III funding.

Thank you,

Cindy Hejl, Director of Financial Aid | Regis University

3333 Regis Blvd., Denver, CO 80221 A-10

P 303.458.4126 | TF 800.568.8932 x4126 | E RUfinancialaid@regis.edu | regis.edu/financialaid



For your privacy and security, Regis University requires all email communications to be sent using regis.edu accounts. Therefore, all University students, faculty and staff, whether part-time or full-time, should regularly check their regis.edu email account for official University notifications regarding classes, financial aid, payment due dates, and other important information.

Personal Email to Student When Application Approved:



Hi Catherine,

Thank you for submitting your application for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Grant.

This email is to let you know that you were approved for a HEERF Grant which will be refunded to you through the Office of Student Accounts. If you set up direct Deposit through the Ranger Portal, your HEERF Grant will be sent to the bank account we have on file. If you did not set up direct deposit, a paper check will be mailed to you next week. Please note that the amount of your grant can be seen on your Offer letter through the Ranger portal; however, this grant does not impact your current financial aid offer. The amount you requested may be different than the amount you actually received based on available funding.

Thank you,

Cindy Hejl, Director of Financial Aid | Regis University

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



Hi Catherine,

Thank you for submitting your application for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Grant.

This email is to let you know that you were approved for a HEERF Grant. You authorized Regis University, through your HEERF application, to apply the HEERF funds to your Regis University student account. The amount of your HEERF grant will be applied first to the balance on your account and if there are any remaining funds available, those funds will be refunded to you through the Office of Student Accounts. If you set up direct Deposit through the Ranger Portal, any remaining funds will be sent to the bank account we have on file. If you did not set up direct deposit, a paper check will be mailed to you next week. Please note that the amount of your grant can be seen on your Offer letter through the Ranger portal; however, this grant does not impact your current financial aid offer. The amount you requested may be different than the amount you actually received based on available funding.

If you still have a balance due, please contact the Office of Student Accounts at stuacct@regis.edu for assistance in setting up a payment agreement.

Thank you,

Cindy Hejl, Director of Financial Aid | Regis University

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