

ARP: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III)

Student Portion - Quarterly Fund Report (Information as of September 30, 2021)

Background:

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2 which was signed into law on March 11, 2021. 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.

The following information must appear in a format and location that is easily accessible to the public. The initial report 30-day is due by June 24, 2021 and must also be updated no later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter (September 30, December 31, March 31, June 30) thereafter, unless the Secretary specifies an alternative method of reporting.

(1) An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used the applicable amount of funds designated under the ARP (a)(1) program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Institutions who received HEERF I grant funds under the CARES Act were not required to submit an application for the HEERF II or HEERF III grant. Villanova University received its HEERF III Grant Award Notification on May 25, 2021. Villanova University will use no less than \$5,639,723 (the student portion) of the funds received under Section 2003(a)(1) of the Act CFDA 84.425E Allocation to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

(2) The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

The total amount of funds that Villanova University received from the Department is \$5,639,723 pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

(3) The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the ARP (a)(1) as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the initial report and every calendar quarter thereafter).

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants that has been distributed to students under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act is **\$5,337,193** as of September 30, 2021.

(4) The estimated total number of students at the institution that are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the ARP (a)(1) program.

CRRSA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students.

Eligible student groups include citizens, permanent residents, international students, refugees, asylum seekers, DACA recipients, other DREAMers and similar undocumented students. The ARP requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need and authorizes grants to students enrolled in both campus and online programs, degree and non-degree seeking, credit, non-credit or dual enrollment.

As of September 30, 2021, Villanova enrolled 4,653 students who submitted a FAFSA or the HEERF III application. Villanova estimates HEERF III funds will be distributed to approximately 3,458 of the neediest of these students (approximately 2,450 undergraduates and 1,008 Graduate students).

(5) The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under the ARP (a)(1) program.

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act at Villanova University is **3435** as of September 30, 2021.

(6) The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the ARP (a)(1) program.

Undergraduate Distribution

Emergency grants are made available to students who are experiencing unexpected financial stresses due to the COVID-19 crisis. Grants started to be funded in Fall, 2021 by the federal government through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) III. The FAFSA was used to determine financial need so students who completed a FAFSA were deemed eligible to be considered for funding. Students who were not able to complete a FAFSA could be considered by completing an institutional application with supporting documentation of need or expenses.

Awards were initially distributed to FAFSA filers on a 5-tiered approach to assist those students with the greatest need the most. Federal Pell Grant recipients received the highest grant amount since these students demonstrate the greatest financial need. Since our need-based aid programs are based on student and family income, this method also ensures that students with demonstrated financial need are assisted, that is, those most likely to be financially affected by the pandemic. Block grant award amounts were determined for the following groups: Pell Grant recipients, recipients of institutional need-based aid, recipients of other non-institutional need-based aid and students from the BSN Express program. Block grant awards were tiered using the Expected Family Contribution from the FAFSA. Additionally, undergraduate students who were not initially selected to receive funds or unable to file a FAFSA were able to apply for HEERF III funding through an application process.

Grants were made to students enrolled on campus and in online programs, degree and non-degree seeking, credit, non-credit or dual enrollment. Eligible student groups include citizens, permanent residents, international students, refugees, asylum seekers, DACA recipients, other DREAMers and similar undocumented students.

Grants may be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), childcare, and other educational expenses. The maximum award for any student will not exceed \$6,495, which is the Pell grant maximum for the 2021-22 academic year unless extreme financial hardship is demonstrated.

Distributions to Graduate and Law Students

Emergency grants are available to students who are experiencing unexpected financial stresses due to the COVID-19 crisis. Grants are being funded in Fall 2021 by the federal government through the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

Grants started to be funded in Fall 2021 by the federal government through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) III. To help determine exceptional financial need, Villanova required all U.S. citizens and permanent residents to file a FAFSA. Students who were not able to complete a FAFSA could be considered by completing an institutional application with supporting documentation of need or expenses. Block grant awards were tiered using the Expected Family Contribution from the FAFSA. Awards were initially distributed to FAFSA filers on a 3-tiered approach to assist those students with the greatest need the most. Graduate students who were not initially selected to receive funds or unable to file a FAFSA were able to apply for HEERF III funding through an application process.

Grants may be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), childcare, and other educational expenses. Awards will not exceed demonstrated need for funding. Awards through the application process will generally be \$1,250, but higher amounts may be requested and awarded under extreme hardship circumstances. The maximum award for any student will not exceed \$6,495, which is the Pell grant maximum for the 2021-22 academic year unless extreme financial hardship is demonstrated.

(7) Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

The communication to undergraduate students who received awards can be found [here](#).

The communication to graduate and law students who received awards can be found [here](#).

Overview information about the CRRSAA HEERF III Act grants to students, as well as other financial relief related to COVID-19, can be found on [Villanova's HEERF III Student Hardship Fund](#).