**American REscue Plan**

Emergency Grants to Students

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III)

 October 12, 2021

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.

An institution that previously received HEERF (I - CARES or II - CRRSA) funds was not required to apply for the HEERF III (ARP) Grant. Rather, “the terms, conditions, and requirements governing the institution’s use of these supplemental grant funds awarded pursuant to section 2003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2) (supplemental award or grant) by the U.S. Department of Education (Department) are governed by section 2003 of the ARP and 314 of the CRRSAA (Pub. L. 116-260) and the terms and conditions of the ["Supplemental Agreement"](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpheerfiiisupplementa1student.pdf)

River Valley Community College(RVCC) received notification of HEERF III (ARP) Grant Funding on May 12, 2021 and acknowledges that the $856,034 student portion must be used to make “emergency financial aid grants to students (which may include students exclusively enrolled in distance education), which 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) or child care.”

## **How much in emergency grant funds has been distributed to students?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **As of** | **Total Amount Disbursed** | **Total Number of Students** |
| June 12, 2021 | $0 | 0 |
| July 19, 2021 | $81,321 | 44 |
| August 19, 2021 | $100,180 | 55 |
| October 12, 2021 | $226,260 | 149 |

## **Who is eligible for the Emergency Financial Aid Grant funds?**

Students who are or were enrolled at River Valley Community College during the COVID-19 national emergency, as Section 2003(7) of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) explains.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **As of** | **Estimated Number of Eligible Students** |
| June 12, 2021 | Considering all students registered for the summer semester |
| July 19, 2021 | Considering all students registered for the summer semester |
| August 19, 2021 | Considering all students registered for the summer semester |
| October 12, 2021 | Considering all students registered for the fall semester |

## **How Will River Valley Community College determine which students receive funds?**

RVCC will follow ARP requirements: “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 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or are eligible for Title IV”.

At time of report, students are required to complete a simple application by logging into the Student Information System ([SIS](https://login.ccsnh.edu/authenticationendpoint/login.do?Name=PreLoginRequestProcessor&commonAuthCallerPath=%252Fcas%252Flogin&forceAuth=false&passiveAuth=false&service=https%3A%2F%2Fsso.ccsnh.edu%2Fssomanager%2Fc%2FSSB&tenantDomain=carbon.super&sessionDataKey=42798971-514f-4f6c-93f5-0b80472ef7e5&relyingParty=BEISSSOManager&type=cas&sp=BEISSSOManager&isSaaSApp=false&authenticators=BasicAuthenticator:LOCAL)) to indicate categories (up to 8) of Coronavirus related financial impact. Application categories:

1. Tuition, Fees, Books & Supplies
2. Child Care
3. Food
4. Health Care (including Mental Health)
5. Housing
6. Internet Access
7. Technology
8. Utilities

RVCC has not yet determined the exact award amounts for the summer semester students, and is also considering other types of block grants to prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants.

## **How WILL students receive their funds?**

SIS Applicants are asked to select a payment option during completion of the application, and provided with these instructions:

Option 1: Apply to my student account to pay tuition, fees, books for any semester(s); (For LRCC & NHTI students only - will also apply to room & board charges.) Excess funds will be refunded via check (mailed to address on file) or direct deposit.

Option 2: Pay directly to me via check (mailed to address on file) or direct deposit. Do not apply to my student account.

If you are awarded ARP financial assistance and have chosen the direct payment method, the fastest way to receive funds is through direct deposit (DD). If you have not previously set up DD, copy and paste the following link into a new window, and follow the instructions ” ["How to Sign up for Electronic Refunding.”](https://www.ccsnh.edu/paying-for-college/resources/ccsnh-student-refunds/)