

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) Report – CRRSAA Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students as of December 31, 2021

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) directs institutions receiving funds under Section 314 of the Act to submit reports describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II). To meet the reporting requirement, each HEERF II participating institution must post the following:

- 1.) The signed Certification and Agreement that was submitted to the Department of Education. *(Not applicable, automatic grant award to CARES Act HEERF grantees.)*
- 2.) The total allocation received for Emergency Financial Aid to Students - \$2,070,570.
- 3.) The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid distributed to students under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA as of 12/31/21 - \$2,063,658.
- 4.) The estimated total number of students eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and therefore eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA as of 12/31/21 - 2,441 Full-Time Undergraduate Students, 229 Part-Time Undergraduate Students, 294 Full-Time Graduate Students and 47 Part-Time Graduate Students.
- 5.) The total number of students who have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 314(a)(1) as of 12/31/21 - 2,367.
- 6.) The method(s) used to determine which students receive the Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 314(a)(1). *(Methodology is attached.)*
- 7.) Instructions, directions, or guidance provided to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants. *(Letter is attached.)*

CRRSAA HEERF II Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students
Francis Marion University
January 2021

Summary

CRRSAA HEERF II Allocation for direct distribution to students

- \$2,070,570 must be distributed directly to students in accordance to the act.
- The Act requires that institutions shall provide financial aid grants to students (including students exclusively enrolled in distance education), which may be used for any component of a 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. In making financial aid grants to students, an institution of higher education **shall prioritize grants to students with exceptional need**, such as students who receive Pell Grants.

Allocation Methodology

The methodology prioritizes students with the exceptional financial. The following categories and amounts have been identified as eligible for the grants as indicated. This strategy prioritizes the majority of the allocation to Pell Grant recipients and Title IV eligible students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. The prioritization is indicated by several factors, including size of award for each category of recipient, the overall total allocation for each category, and the exceptional need demonstrated by individual students.

1. Full-time undergraduate students eligible for Title IV funding who demonstrate exceptional financial need due based upon ability to meet the cost of attendance.
\$1,050 per student
2. Full-time undergraduate students who receive Pell Grants.
\$950 per student
3. Full-time undergraduate students eligible for Title IV funding who are impacted by the pandemic.
\$800 per student
4. Part-time undergraduate students eligible for Title IV funding who are impacted by the pandemic.
\$550 per student
5. Graduate students eligible for Title IV funding who are impacted by the pandemic.
\$550 per student

Distribution

Students will automatically receive 50% of their allocation in January to meet immediate financial obligations. The remaining 50% will be awarded to them in late February to meet ongoing financial obligations. Current or future enrollment at the university will not be considered during the allocation process. Every recipient will receive a letter indicating the purpose and appropriate use of these funds in accordance with the CRRSAA.

Any remaining funds will be awarded to recipients who may have been misidentified in the initial allocation process or to individual students who are eligible to receive funding and demonstrate exceptional financial need based upon exigent circumstances.



FRANCIS MARION
UNIVERSITY

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Dear Student:

On December 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) was signed into law. Part of the Act provides each college and university with limited emergency grant funding to help students offset expenses related to disruptions to their education due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

President Fred Carter, in consultation with the vice presidents for finance and enrollment management, has determined that the funding will go to students with demonstrated exceptional financial need with prioritization provided to those who are Pell eligible, Title IV eligible, have completed a FAFSA, or initiated a payment plan with the University.

The grants must be used by students to help with expenses related to the cost of attendance at Francis Marion, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health), or childcare. Because you are a Francis Marion University student who has demonstrated exceptional financial need, you are eligible to receive grant funding. You will receive your award in two equal payments. The first payment is enclosed. The second payment will be mailed during the first week of March.

Sincerely,

Kimi Ellisor
Director of Financial Assistance
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