

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II and III Reporting

CRRSAA (HEERF II) and ARP (HEERF III) Acts

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Reporting Requirements: Initial HEERF II reporting was completed on June 10, 2021. DSU has exhausted all funds received under HEERF II funding, as of April 13, 2021. DSU has made a disbursement of a portion of HEERF III funds for the 2021 summer semester. HEERF I funds were exhausted on September 25, 2020, see HEERF I reporting for details.

The total amount of student emergency grant funding received from HEERF I, II, and III is \$1,994,447.

1. Dickinson State University (DSU) originally signed and returned the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CARES Act on April 17, 2020. HEERF II and III funds were automatic grant awards with the HEERF I agreement. Drawdown of funds is considered acceptance of the grant. DSU intends to provide the full mandated amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under both Acts.

2. The CRRSAA was signed into law on December 27, 2020. DSU has been allocated \$320,047 under the student grant portion. DSU received authorization of this funding on January 17, 2021. The CRRSAA funds were received on April 14, 2021.

The ARP Act was signed into law on March 11, 2021. DSU received authorization of the HEERF III funding on May 17, 2021 and has been allocated \$1,079,161 in student grants. The ARP funds have not yet been accessed for distribution.

3. Under the CRRSAA, \$594,400 has been distributed to students on April 13, 2021. This included the full portion of the CRRSAA student grant (\$302,047) and a transfer of institutional HEERF funds (\$274,353) to the student grant portion.

Initial ARP funding has been disbursed to students attending the 2021 summer semester.

\$156,00 was disbursed 171 students. \$156,000 was the total disbursed for the quarter.

4. It has been estimated that 1282 students may have met the eligibility requirements for the CRSSAA funding.

402 students met the eligibility requirements for the ARP summer funding.

5. Under the CRRSAA, the total number of students who have received an emergency student grant is 503.

As of the date of this reporting, \$156,600 of ARP funding was disbursed to 171 students in the 2021 summer semester.

A total of 558 unduplicated students have received CRRSAA and ARP funding.

6. Distribution of funds, CRRSAA: If eligible and approved, CRRSAA funding is disbursed directly to students via direct deposit, if enrolled, or via check mailed to the student's address listed in Campus Connection if not enrolled in direct deposit. DSU must disburse CRRSAA grants directly to students and may only apply the grant toward an outstanding institutional charge with the student's consent.

The CRRSAA requires that DSU prioritizes students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. To prioritize students with exceptional need, DSU automatically awarded CRRSAA grants to students who have a Pell-eligible EFC. All undergraduate students with an EFC of less than 5,712 qualified for an automatic grant. Students who have a Pell-eligible EFC were awarded a grant of \$1400.

Students who do not have a Pell-eligible EFC, including graduate students, were required to submit a hardship application in order to receive CRRSAA funding. The application was open March 6-28, 2021 on the students' Blackboard account. Students who submitted a complete and accurate application were awarded a grant of \$800.

Early Entry/Dual Credit Students: In order to prioritize students with exceptional need, DSU automatically awarded CRRSAA HEERF II Emergency Relief Grant funding to DSU Early Entry/Dual Credit students who applied for and received tuition assistance from the Bank of North Dakota (BND) for being eligible for free or reduced lunch. No action was required if the student received tuition assistance from the BND in the spring 2021 semester. These students were awarded a grant of \$1400.

Early Entry/Dual Credit students who did not receive BND tuition assistance, and had emergency expenses due to the coronavirus, may submit the CRRSAA HEERF II Hardship Application. A hardship application must be fully completed by the student and submitted to the Office of Financial Aid by Friday, April 9, 2021. Students who submitted a complete and accurate application were awarded a grant of \$800.

Distribution of funds, ARP: If eligible and approved, ARP funding is disbursed directly to students via direct deposit, if enrolled, or via check mailed to the student's address listed in Campus Connection if not enrolled in direct deposit. DSU must disburse ARP grants directly to students and may only apply the grant toward an outstanding institutional charge with the student's consent.

The ARP requires that DSU prioritizes students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. To prioritize students with exceptional need, DSU automatically awarded ARP grants to students who have a Pell-eligible EFC. All undergraduate students, enrolled in the 2021 summer semester, with an EFC of less than 5,712 qualified for an automatic grant. Students who have a Pell-eligible EFC were awarded a grant of \$1,000.

Students who do not have a Pell-eligible EFC, including graduate students, were required to submit a hardship application in order to receive ARP funding. The application was open July 12-23, 2021 on the students' Blackboard account. Students who submitted a complete and accurate application were awarded a grant of \$800.

7. Instructions, directions, and guidance provided to students by DSU:

CRRSAA Communication:

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) signed into law on December 27, 2020, gave the U.S. Department of Education funds to distribute to institutions of higher education through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II). Dickinson State University has been allocated \$320,047 to assist students in covering components of cost of attendance and emergency costs associated with the coronavirus pandemic.

According to CRRSAA and guidance from the Department of Education, the following eligibility rules apply:

- Institutions must make financial aid grants to students, which can 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.
- Unlike the CARES Act, the CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, and authorizes grants to students exclusively enrolled in distance education.
- Student must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident.
- Student must currently be enrolled during the spring 2021 semester.
- Student must currently be enrolled in a degree-seeking program.

In order to prioritize students with exceptional need, DSU will automatically award CRRSAA HEERF II Emergency Relief Grant funding to DSU students who received a Pell Grant during the spring 2021 semester. No action will be required if the student is Pell-eligible. *To check Pell eligibility, students should access their Campus Connection account and view their financial aid awards.*

Students who are not eligible for Pell Grants, may submit the **CRRSAA HEERF II Hardship Application**. This online application will be available March 6 – 28, for students who are not Pell-eligible and have emergency costs due to coronavirus.

To access the application, students should log in to their [DSU Blackboard account](#), click the "My DSU" tab, and navigate to the Blue Hawk Hub, where they will find further instructions. *Students who received a Pell Grant in the spring 2021 semester do not need to submit this application.*

For questions or clarification, please contact DSU's Office of Financial Aid:

- Phone: 701-483-2371
- Text: 701-561-0904

•Email: dsu.financialaid@dickinsonstate.edu

DSU Early Entry/Dual Credit Students,

Do you have expenses related to the coronavirus pandemic?

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) signed into law on December 27, 2020, gave the U.S. Department of Education funds to distribute to institutions of higher education through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II). Dickinson State University (DSU) has been allocated funding to assist students in covering components of cost of attendance and emergency costs associated with the coronavirus pandemic.

According to CRRSAA and guidance from the Department of Education, the following eligibility rules apply:

- Institutions must make financial aid grants to students, which can 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.
- Unlike the CARES Act, the CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, and also authorizes grants to students exclusively enrolled in distance education.
- Student must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident.
- Student must be enrolled during the spring 2021 semester at DSU. (The Department of Education has ruled that dual-enrollment and non-degree students do qualify for this grant.)

In order to prioritize students with exceptional need, DSU will automatically award CRRSAA HEERF II Emergency Relief Grant funding to DSU Early Entry/Dual Credit students who applied for and received tuition assistance from the Bank of North Dakota (BND) for being eligible for free or reduced lunch. No action will be required if the student has received tuition assistance from the BND in the spring 2021 semester.

Students who did not receive BND tuition assistance, and had emergency expenses due to the coronavirus, may submit the attached **CRRSAA HEERF II Hardship Application**. This application must be fully completed by the student and submitted to Christopher.meek@dickinsonstate.edu by Friday, April 9, 2021.

As the grant draws on a limited pool of funds, DSU cannot guarantee the availability of funds for assistance.

For questions or clarification, please contact DSU's Office of Financial Aid:

•Phone: 701-483-2371

•Text: 701-561-0904

•Email: dsu.financialaid@dickinsonstate.edu

Applications must be received by April 9, 2021.

ARP communication:

Dear DSU Summer Students,

Do you have expenses due to the coronavirus pandemic? Apply for grant relief funds today!

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dickinson State University (DSU) has been allocated funding to assist students in covering components of cost of attendance and emergency costs associated with the coronavirus pandemic.

The following eligibility rules apply:

- Institutions must make financial aid grants to students, which can 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.
- Institutions must prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants.
- Students must be enrolled in at least one credit hour during the summer 2021 semester. All enrolled students could be eligible including US citizens, undocumented, and international students.

In order to prioritize students with exceptional need, DSU will automatically award ARP HEERF III Emergency Financial Aid Grant funding to DSU students who received a Pell Grant, or had a Pell-eligible Expected Family Contribution from FAFSA, during the summer 2021 semester. No action will be required if the student is Pell-eligible. *To check Pell eligibility, students should access their Campus Connection account and view their summer financial aid awards.*

Students who are not eligible for Pell Grants, may submit the **ARP HEERF III Hardship Application**. This online application will be available July 12 – 23, for students who are not Pell-eligible and have emergency costs due to coronavirus.

To access the application, students should log in to their [DSU Blackboard account](#), click the “My DSU” tab, and navigate to the Blue Hawk Hub, where they will find further instructions. *Students who received a Pell Grant in the summer 2021 semester do not need to submit this application.*

As the grant draws on a limited pool of funds, DSU cannot guarantee the availability of funds for assistance.

Applications must be received by July 23, 2021.

For questions or clarification, please contact DSU’s Office of Financial Aid:

•Phone: 701-483-2371

•Text: 701-561-0904

•Email: dsu.financialaid@dickinsonstate.edu

June 10, 2021: Initial HEERF II and III Reporting

June 14, 2021: Update of instructions sent to Early Entry Students

September 29, 2021: No disbursement updates. DSU is currently working on a procedure for the fall ARP funding to students. Correction to ARP summer disbursements.