

**CARES Act  
Department of Education Report  
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) – Student Portion  
Emergency Grants to Students**

*For quarter ending December 31, 2021*

**Certification and Agreement**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law March 27, 2020; this act includes Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF I) for students. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) Act was signed into law on December 27, 2020; this act includes Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF II) (also known as Consolidated Appropriations Act (2021)) for students. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law on March 11, 2021; this act includes Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III) for students.

On April 16, 2020, Marymount California University (MCU) signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds and intends to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

MCU received its HEERF I Grant Award Notification on April 25, 2020.

MCU received its HEERF II Grant Award Notification on January 19, 2021.

MCU received its HEERF III Grant Award Notification on May 16, 2021.

**Total Amount of Funds Received**

MCU has/will receive a total of \$2,060,466 for students from the Department of Education (\$437,233 in HEERF I Grants, \$437,233 in HEERF II Grants, and \$1,186,000 in HEERF III Grants), representing 50 percent of funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to be provided directly to students in the form of CARES Act Emergency Relief Grants for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19.

**Total Amount of Funds Disbursed for Students**

As of December 31, 2021, MCU has distributed \$2,037,634 in Higher Education Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 854 students.

The amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the following dates:

5/19/2020: \$311,500

6/25/2020: \$108,500

Quarter 2, 2020 total: \$420,000; Cumulative total, \$420,000

Quarter 3, 2020 total: \$0; Cumulative total, \$420,000

Quarter 4, 2020 total: \$0; Cumulative total, \$420,000

1/04/2021: \$17,233

2/09/2021: \$281,500

2/11/2021: \$5,750

2/22/2021: \$77,012.50

2/25/2021: \$40,250

3/31/2021: \$737.50

Quarter 1, 2021 total: \$422,483; Cumulative total, \$842,483

4/09/2021: \$31,080

4/30/2021: \$903

Quarter 2, 2021 total: \$31,983; Cumulative total, \$874,466

7/29/2021: \$4,000

8/02/2021: \$3,200

8/04/2021: \$7,500

9/08/2021: \$5,953

Quarter 3, 2021 total: \$20,653; Cumulative total, \$895,119

10/04/2021: \$26,918

10/05/2021: \$229,000

10/06/2021: \$216,500

10/12/2021: \$355,500

10/13/2021: \$226,500

10/19/2021: \$19,000

11/04/2021: \$38,050

12/02/2021: \$4,000

12/03/2021: \$16,000

Quarter 4, 2021 total: \$1,130,468; Cumulative total, \$2,035,587

### **Estimated Number of Eligible Students**

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 thus eligible for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Student under 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is approximately 479.

### **Total Number of Student Recipients**

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the following dates:

5/19/2020: 469

6/25/2020: 11

1/04/2021: <10

2/09/2021: 313

2/11/2021: <10

2/22/2021: 80

2/25/2021: 40

3/31/2021: <10

4/09/2021: 83

4/30/2021: 35

09/30/2021: 10

12/31/2021: 542

### **Methods Used to Determine which Students will Receive Emergency Grants and How Much**

The CARES Act specifies that funds, by way of direct cash grants, should be used to assist students with "expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus." Some examples of unexpected expenses incurred by students at this time are improved hardware or software at home, access to the internet, or other provisions.

The legislation limits eligibility for CARES Act funds only to students eligible to receive federal financial aid (students eligible to participate in programs under section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965), excluding assistance to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and international students. Internal reporting showed that 453 Spring 2021 MCU students were eligible to receive a portion of the CARES Act funding and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. The HEERF III American Rescue Plan expanded eligibility to international and DACA students.

In determining a distribution plan to MCU students for the CARES Act/CRRSAA/HEERF II funding, the university created three student populations based on need to determine the Emergency Financial Aid grant amounts. The first population, FAFSA eligible students with no demonstrated need, consisted of 97 students and received a grant of \$500. The second population, students with completed FAFSAs with demonstrated need, consisted of 150 students and received a grant of \$750. The third population, Pell-eligible students, consisted of 201 and received a grant of \$1250.

The same needs-based approach was followed for the distribution of the HEERF III American Rescue Plan emergency grants. The first population of students identified as FAFSA eligible with no demonstrated need, consisted of 163 students and received a \$1500 grant. The second population, students with completed FAFSAs with demonstrated need consisted of 166 students and received a grant of \$2000. The third population, Pell-eligible students, consisted of 189 and received a grant of \$2500.

To assist eligible students with emergency funding outside of the distribution plan above, an application was created for students to apply for additional funding based on financial hardships directly related to the COVID pandemic.

### **Instructions, Direction and Guidance Regarding Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) – Emergency Grants to Students**

Webpage: MCU developed a Coronavirus Update page to provide information to all MCU students about activities at MCU being impacted by COVID-19. CARES Act Emergency Relief Grant funding and procedures at MCU are posted under CARES Act Updates.

MCU will continue to monitor guidance and update reporting and distribution of funds accordingly.

Announcements sent to all students in the past quarter:

- Announcement to all students was sent on October 1st, 2021 about the upcoming disbursement in October to all students, which included the option to receive the funds via check or apply the funds toward a credit on their account.

- An application to apply for emergency funding is prominently posted on the CARES Act webpage.
- Students with questions about CARES Act funding were encouraged to email [financialaid@marymountcalifornia.edu](mailto:financialaid@marymountcalifornia.edu).