



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS®

U.S. Department of Education

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II) Reporting Requirement

April 9, 2021

On April 22, 2020 UAF signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the funding certification and agreement for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. As of December 31, 2020, all available funds, \$7,727,181, had been distributed with 14,164 students having received emergency financial aid grants. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (referred to as “HEERF II”) was subsequently authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) and signed into law on December 27, 2020. HEERF II provided the University an additional \$7,727,181 in funding for supplemental emergency grants to students.

- UAF will receive \$7,727,181 in HEERF II dollars allocated specifically for supplemental emergency financial aid grants to students.
- As of March 31, 2021, \$7,714,575 of the additional HEERF II funding has been distributed to students.
- As of March 31, 2021, 7,503 students were eligible for and had received an emergency financial aid grant from the additional HEERF II funding.
- All eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students were awarded HEERF II funds. Award amounts ranged from \$825-\$1,125 based on Expected Family Contribution (EFC) reported in a student’s Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2020-2021. Students with the greatest need, according to their EFC, received the largest awards.

Eligible students were defined as:

- Having a valid 2020-2021 FAFSA on file.
- A U.S. Citizen or an eligible noncitizen.
- Earned a high school diploma, GED or completed high school in an approved homeschool setting.
- Maintaining the minimum satisfactory academic progress standards.

- Not in default or owing a refund on a Title IV grant or loan.
- Having on file a statement of educational purpose, selective service registration if the student is a male, and a valid social security number.
- Not convicted of a crime involving fraud in obtaining Federal financial aid.
- Not convicted of a drug offense while receiving Federal financial aid.

The following email was sent to student recipients once funding was awarded:

Dear Student,

We are pleased to tell you that you are eligible for an emergency aid grant under the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA).

The CRRSAA Act was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from the COVID-19 pandemic. One section of the act established the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II and sent money to schools to use for emergency financial aid grants to students.

The University of Arkansas Office of Financial Aid determined your eligibility to receive a grant based on information provided in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) you filed in your 2020-2021 application.

The amount of emergency funds received is tiered based on the Expected Family Contribution reported in your FAFSA application with a maximum possible award of \$1,125.

The tiered distribution approach was established in alignment with U.S. Department of Education guidance encouraging institutions to take need into account. The University’s approach awards the highest amount to students who receive Pell grants based on need, and then scales amounts awarded to other students based on Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as calculated under federal guidelines.

EFC TIERS	AWARDED AMOUNT
PELL RECIPIENTS	\$1,125
\$0-\$10,000	\$975
\$10,001-\$15,000	\$825

Funds will be distributed through [BankMobile](#) based on the refunding preference you select. The choices are 1) direct deposit to an existing bank account or 2) direct deposit to a BankMobile VIBE Checking Account.

If you haven’t set up your BankMobile account, please do so in order to receive your emergency funds. If you have signed up, be sure to check your [refund delivery preference](#) with BankMobile.

You can [contact BankMobile](#) with any questions you have regarding their delivery preference. We also recommend that you update your mailing address in UAConnect.