

HEERF Grant II (CRRSAA) Reporting

CRRSAA Act – Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) II Grants to Students (last updated 4/10/21).

On 12/27/2020, the President of the United States signed the Coronavirus, Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021. This Act provides emergency relief funds to organizations and individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II), found in Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act, allows higher education institutions to use certain funds allocated by the Department of Education to support students and higher education institutions with expenses and financial needs related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The following information is provided by Wentworth Institute of Technology (the “University”) as required by the Department of Education (“ED”) in order to comply with the reporting requirements under the CRRSAA Act.

- 1. An acknowledgement that the institution has used, or intends to use, the same amount of HEERF II funds for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students as offered to students for HEERF I under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.**

Institutions who received HEERF I Grant funds under the CARES Act were not required to submit an application for the HEERF II Grant. Wentworth Institute of Technology received its HEERF II Grant award notification on 1/18/2021. In keeping with the terms of acceptance of these funds, Wentworth Institute of Technology will use no less than \$1,734,786, as stated under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act, to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students.

- 2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act.**

The University is slated to receive a total of \$5,314,247 under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act, of which \$1,734,786 will be provided directly to students with expenses related to the COVID-19 crisis. On 3/4/2021 and 3/24/2021, the University received \$1,507,188 and \$87,596, respectively, of the student portion of this award. On 2/24/2021 the University received \$3,579,461 of the institutional portion of this award.

- 3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act as of the date of submission.**

As of 4/10/2021, the University had distributed \$1,594,784.

- 4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act.**

As of 4/10/2021, the University determined that 1,116 students were eligible for the HEERF II Grant.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act.

The total number of students who have been offered an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act is 1,116; 1,116 grants were distributed as of 4/10/2021.

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA Act.

All full-time and part-time undergraduate and graduate students registered in a degree seeking program for the Spring 2021 semester, including students enrolled in exclusively distance education courses, were eligible for consideration. Following the parameters of the Department of Education guidance, the University created its eligibility calculation using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) data to measure socioeconomic status and also required that the student maintain satisfactory academic performance and be a citizen of the United States. Grants were provided to students that met the criteria noted above and were Pell Grant eligible and/or had an Expected Family Contribution of \$10,000 or less. Grants were awarded automatically to those eligible students ratably at \$122 per enrolled credit hour. As of 4/10/2021, \$140,002 in funds were remaining for other potential student needs.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

An email was sent to students explaining their eligibility requirements and notifying them that these funds would be distributed to them automatically, no application was required. The award was credited to their University account, but effectively bypassed any University charges and was forwarded on in the form of an Electronic Funds Transfer per student authorized directive or in the form of a mailed paper check to the student's address of record, unless the student gave the University written permission to apply the funds toward their student account.