

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II) and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP - HEERF III), Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA)

Federal Reporting Requirements – September 30, 2021

North Central Institute was awarded additional funds for emergency relief grants for student under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (HEERF III). The sum of \$31,660.00 was added as a supplement to the original HEERF II award.

➤ **Certification and Agreement for CRRSAA Funds**

North Central Institute (NCI) acknowledges that they have signed and returned to the Department, the Certification and Agreement as well as the Required Proprietary Institution Certification (RPIC) form to receive supplemental funding, to the US Department of Education.

➤ **Total Funds Received**

NCI has received \$48,401.00 Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under HEERF II and **an additional \$31,660.00 was awarded under HEERF III**. These awards are listed under the same grant number.

➤ **Amount of Grants Awarded**

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants dispersed to students under HEERF II as of March 9, 2021 was \$29,040, and a second disbursement under HEERF II and HEERF III of \$20,875.00 was dispersed to students on September 2, 2021.

➤ **Eligible Students/Grants Awarded**

The number of students at NCI eligible to receive and awarded Emergency Financial Aid Grants under HEERF II on March 9th, 2021, was 31. The number of students eligible to receive the HEERF II & III on September 2, 2021, was 27, with 24 receiving a grant.

➤ **Process, and/or Overall Approach to the Distribution of Emergency Student Funds**

During these unprecedented times, we understand that our student population may need assistance with the components of their cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare, and that this pandemic has affected everyone in some capacity.

For the first disbursement, we divided our student base into 5 tiers to determine the level of need to distribute the funds in a fair and equitable means. Several areas were taken into consideration to include the student's EFC, Dependency Status, AGI, additional funding sources beyond Pell, as well as individual needs, allowing the Financial Aid Officer to use professional judgement in a case-by-case scenario. The grants ranged from Tier 1 receiving \$1,742.40 to Tier 5 receiving \$290.37.

Students were urged to complete the FAFSA but were not discriminated against if unable to do so. As of the March 9, 2021, disbursement, 31 students were eligible for the CRRSAA grant, receiving an average of \$936.77.

For the second disbursement on September 2, 2021, the students were divided into 3 tiers to determine their level of need to distribute the funds in a fair and equitable means. EFC, Dependency Status, AGI, additional funding sources beyond Pell, as well as individual needs, were considered, allowing the Financial Aid Officer to use professional judgement in a case-by-case scenario. The grants ranged from Tier 1 receiving \$1,200.0 to Tier 3 receiving \$525.00. Of the 27 eligible students, 24 received grants, for an average of \$869.79.

Students received a letter with their grant money that included information on the HEERF II & III funds, and that the Department of Education has specifically instructed these funds be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare. And by accepting these funds, they confirm they have a qualifying expense.