

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund HEERF II Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA)

Federal Reporting Requirements - March 31, 2021

➤ **Certification and Agreement for CRRSAA Funds**

North Central Institute (NCI) acknowledges that they have signed and returned the official Certification and Agreement for CARES Act funds to the US Department of Education.

➤ **Total Funds Received**

NCI has received \$48,401 in total funds pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

➤ **Amount of Grants Awarded**

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants awarded to students under HEERF II as of March 9, 2021, is \$29,040.

➤ **Eligible Students/Grants Awarded**

The number of students at NCI eligible to receive and awarded Emergency Financial Aid Grants under HEERF II is 31.

➤ **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. 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.

Students received a letter with their grant money that included information on the HEERF II 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.