



Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds Round Two (HEERF II) Report

Background HEERF II

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. In total, the CRRSAA authorized \$23 billion for higher education institutions and students, in addition to the \$14 billion provided last spring through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136.

Regis was notified that it was entitled to receive \$4,210,720 to be drawn down as expensed and no further application was required. The Act required institutions to spend the same dollar amount on student grants as they were required to spend under the CARES Act; therefore, \$1,224,343 was considered the student allocation of HEERF II and \$2,986,377 was considered the institutional allocation.

Under HEERF II, additional flexibilities were afforded institutions by expanding the allowable uses of the funds and the Act opened these uses up to both the HEERF II and any remaining HEERF I funds.

With the additional flexibilities and with again the instruction to support students as quickly as possible with the student allocation, the Offices of Financial Affairs, Financial Aid, and Student Affairs agreed to a very similar strategy for prioritizing those students with exceptional need.

As of April 2021, the total amount of HEERF II student allocation of \$1,224,343 has been fully disbursed.

Student Eligibility

The CRRSAA opened up the eligibility to receive HEERF II (and unspent HEERF I) funds to all students except DACA and international students. It also allowed students the ability to authorize the funds to apply to their student account balance. Accommodation was made for this and an application was posted and an email communication sent to all students with an Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) as calculated on the 2020/2021 FAFSA of zero to 10,000 and to students with higher EFC's with a past due balance. An application priority deadline date of March 16, 2021 was set. Over 900 applications were received and reviewed in this time frame.

Methodology

The methods used by Regis University to determine which students received HEERF II and how much were as follows:

In accordance with the CRRSAA, Regis prioritized the distribution of funds to eligible students demonstrating exceptional need and asked students on the application to certify their eligibility and describe expenses related to their costs of attendance (e.g. food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, childcare, and transportation). The amount of funding was based on a combination of what the student requested, level of need, and available funding.

All requests were reviewed individually to confirm a student's eligibility, and to evaluate the requested amounts.

Notices

Web Posting:

Regis Receives Higher Education Emergency Relief II (HEERF II) Funding

Regis University has received funding from the U.S. Department of Education as authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA). The Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF II) are to be distributed to help students with **exceptional financial need** for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs experienced due to the coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care costs.

Institutions must prioritize students with exceptional need when allocating grants. The US Department of Education recommends using the maximum Federal Pell Grant for the applicable award year as an appropriate *maximum* for a student's financial aid grant in most cases; however, the US Department of Education strongly encourages financial aid administrators to exercise the use of professional judgment and students don't need to be eligible for, or receive, a Federal Pell Grant to receive HEERF II funding under CRRSAA.

If you do not qualify under the CARES Act for HEERF II but you are experiencing financial distress, you may contact the Office of Student Affairs Emergency Funding Committee at studentaffairs@regis.edu to apply for support.

Eligible students: *Regis University will provide notice through RegisNet accounts to all students who have a 20/21 FAFSA on file with the Office of Financial Aid and an Estimated Family Contribution of 10,000 or less. Other students who believe they can demonstrate exceptional financial need and might be eligible can access the HEERF II Application [here](#). As funding is limited, students will be reviewed for funding based on their financial need as calculated by the FAFSA and the information provided in the application. Students receiving funding will be notified directly through RegisNet accounts and all other applicants will receive a general notice when funds have been depleted.*

Directed Email to Potentially Eligible Students:



Hi Catherine,

We recently received funding from the U.S. Department of Education as authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA). The Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF II) are to be distributed to help students with **exceptional financial need** for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs experienced due to the coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care costs.

This email is to let you know that you *may* be eligible to receive a portion of this funding. If you apply and qualify to receive funding, you may choose to receive funds directly or you may select to have these funds applied to your current balance with the Office of Student Accounts.

To apply, please complete the online application at [CRRSAA HEERF II Application](#).

We will review all applications received by **March 15** and notify you directly if we are able to offer you HEERF II funding.

Thank you,

Cindy Hejl, Director of Financial Aid | Regis University

3333 Regis Blvd., Denver, CO 80221 A-8

P 303.458.4126 | **TF** 800.568.8932 x4126 | **E** RUfinancialaid@regis.edu | regis.edu/financialaid

For your privacy and security, Regis University requires all email communications to be sent using regis.edu accounts. Therefore, all University students, faculty and staff, whether part-time or full-time, should regularly check their regis.edu email account for official University notifications regarding classes, financial aid, payment due dates, and other important information.

Personal Email to Student When Application Approved:



Hi Catherine,

Thank you for submitting your application for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Grant.

This email is to let you know that you were approved for a HEERF Grant which will be refunded to you through the Office of Student Accounts. If you set up direct Deposit through the Ranger Portal, your HEERF

Grant will be sent to the bank account we have on file. If you did not set up direct deposit, a paper check will be mailed to you next week.

Please note that the amount of your grant can be seen on your Offer letter through the Ranger portal; however, this grant does not impact your current financial aid offer. The amount you requested may be different than the amount you actually received based on available funding.

Thank you,

Cindy Hejl, Director of Financial Aid | Regis University

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Personal Email to Student When Application Approved (Authorization Received):



Hi Catherine,

Thank you for submitting your application for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Grant.

This email is to let you know that you were approved for a HEERF Grant. You authorized Regis University, through your HEERF application, to apply the HEERF funds to your Regis University student account. The amount of your HEERF grant will be applied first to the balance on your account and if there are any remaining funds available, those funds will be refunded to you through the Office of Student Accounts. If you set up direct Deposit through the Ranger Portal, any remaining funds will be sent to the bank account we have on file. If you did not set up direct deposit, a paper check will be mailed to you next week. Please note that the amount of your grant can be seen on your Offer letter through the Ranger portal; however, this grant does not impact your current financial aid offer. The amount you requested may be different than the amount you actually received based on available funding.

If you still have a balance due, please contact the Office of Student Accounts at stuacct@regis.edu for assistance in setting up a payment agreement.

Thank you,

Cindy Hejl, Director of Financial Aid | Regis University

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