

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Reporting: Emergency Financial Aid Grant to Students

Update – April 11, 2022 (quarterly update)

(1) **Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®)** submitted the signed Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act) and the ARP (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) effective May 14, 2021.

In distributing these funds, Tri-C follows the instructions and guidance provided by the U.S Department of Education, Federal Student Aid, and the Certification and Agreement completed by the college.

(2) Under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs, a total of \$31,550,883.00 has been received to be used for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students; \$10,027,370.00 under the CRRSAA (a)(1) and \$21,523,513.00 under the ARP (a)(4) programs.

(3) The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs for the calendar quarter as of the date of this report is \$14,707,989.06.

(4) The estimated total number of students potentially eligible to apply to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs during the calendar quarter being reported was 13,075.

(5) The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant as of the date of this report is 14,768.

(6) Students receive a link in their Tri-C student portal to the online application. Eligibility information is disseminated to students via email, social media, and on the College's website. Students certify their eligibility through the HEERF application process. Students may be eligible for funds up to \$2,000 for the term. Funds are made available to students based on exceptional financial need and/or emergency expenses that arise due to the coronavirus, or eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance. Awards are prioritized for Tri-C students with exceptional financial need (Pell eligible students), and emergency financial expenses based on the institutional HEERF application. Students with a FAFSA and a completed financial aid file were awarded \$1500 (Pell eligible), or \$1000 (non-Pell eligible.) Students eligible to receive a block grant may request additional funds up to \$2000 or \$1500 by completing the HEERF application.

Examples of exceptional financial need or emergency expenses, as identified based on guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Education, include but are not limited to:

- Tuition assistance
- Food assistance
- Housing assistance
- Child care emergencies
- Health emergencies
- Technology and equipment needs
- Loss of employment
- Reduced income

The Student Financial Aid and Scholarships team reviews applications daily. Students indicate on their HEERF application if they want to receive funds directly by direct deposit or check by USPS mail, or have the funds applied to their student billing account to help pay tuition and other college charges. Students receive an email notification about their HEERF application status.

(7) Instructions, directions and guidance provided by the institution to students includes: 1x1 communication with financial aid advisors, direct emails to students, HEERF FAQ's, and eligibility information posted to the College's HEERF website; social media and email communications make students aware of the Emergency Financial Aid grant program. Email notices are sent to student's Tri-C email accounts.