

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

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

Update – January 10, 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.

(2) The total amount of funds to be received from the Department for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under these programs is \$10,027,370.00 under the CRRSAA and \$21,523,513.00 under the ARP; total \$31,550,883.00.

(3) The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs as of the date of this report is \$19,573,613.82 of which \$8,780,641.81 was distributed in the fall semester.

(4) As of December 31, 2021, a total of 11,199 emergency financial aid awards have been made. Funds were distributed to 4,898 students in fall semester. Total unduplicated students are 7,668.

(5) 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 fall semester of awarding was 18,699.

(6) Students contact the Student Financial Aid and Scholarship Office to request the college's HEERF application. 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 per 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. Student emergency financial aid awards are prioritized for Tri-C students with exceptional financial need (i.e. Pell eligible students), and emergency financial expenses based on the institutional 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.