# HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND REPORTING ARP HEERF III GRANTS (Revised 01/12/2022)

Until the U. S. Department of Education determines the process by which institutions may directly report the required data for HEERF III Grant expenditures, institutions have been directed to provide this information easily accessible to the public on the institution's website.

An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under CRRSAA Act and ARP to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

McLennan Community College signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement on May 5, 2020. Because of signing the earlier CARES Act agreement, an additional agreement was not required.

The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

McLennan Community College has received \$14,697,384.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter).

As of September 30, 2021, \$7,200,440 has been distributed to 8,869 students.

The estimated total number of students eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

We estimate that there are 10,175 students eligible to receive the Emergency Financial Aid Grant.

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students.

As of September 30, 2021, 8,869 students have received funding.

The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive.

A group consisting of the Vice President Finance and Administration, Director of Financial Aid, Associate Director of Financial Aid, Financial Aid Specialist, Director Admissions, Executive Director Foundation, Coordinator Recruiting, and Director Marketing and Communication reviewed the guidance and developed the plan that was presented to Campus Leadership and the Board of Trustees. The plan included the following.

Method for determining eligibility:

- All Students (excluding International) enrolled for Summer or Fall 2021 were automatically awarded a grant under this section.
- Students will be grouped by Pell Eligible and those that are not. Additionally, enrollment status (enrolled in 9 or more hours, and 1 through 8 hours) will be considered.
- Students who are listed as International students would complete a simple application for the federal HEERF III grant that specifies that the students incurred expenses related to the Coronavirus. The application asks the student to indicate the expenses incurred due to COVID-19.
- All students receiving consideration for funding must have been enrolled for the 2021 Summer or Fall semester.

The following table provides the amounts for each group of students after June reallocation:

PELL ELIGIBLE STUDENTS	Summer	Fall
Enrolled 9 or more hours	\$870	\$1500
Enrolled 1 through 8 hours	\$435	\$750
NOT PELL ELIGIBLE		
Enrolled 9 or more hours	\$500	\$750
Enrolled 1 through 8 hours	\$250	\$375

# Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Each student considered eligible was sent an e-mail explaining they qualified for a grant from the ARP HEERF III Act. International students received a separate e-mail with a link to the college's application to determine eligibility. The information page on the college website is copied below:

# **Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III Grants**

MCC received funding through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) as authorized through the American Rescue Plan Act 2021 (ARP). This funding is to assist the neediest students attending college who have been financially impacted by the coronavirus.

# **Federal Emergency Relief Fund for MCC Students**

HEERF III funds are federal grants that can be used to help cover expenses, so you can focus on your education and meet your academic goals. You will not be asked to pay these funds back.

#### **Awards to Students**

McLennan Community College is planning its awarding process in five phases:

#### Phase 1

All Students will be eligible for HEERF III Funding. International students will be required to complete an application. Pell Grants recipients have been described in the legislation as the needlest students. Students who have an EFC (from the FAFSA) that would have allowed them to receive the Pell Grant and are enrolled in the 2021 Summer 1 semester will be awarded more funding than those without. The award amounts will be adjusted based on enrollment status. An email and text message will be sent to these students to notify them of the disbursement.

#### Phase 2

We will award students enrolled in Summer II based on the same criteria in Phase 1.

#### Phase 3

In September 2021, students enrolled in Fall 2021 will be awarded funding based on the same criteria as in Phase 1.

#### Phase 4

We will review all eligible students who have enrolled in the Fall 2021 second 8-week term and award them as in Phase 1.

#### Phase 5

The remaining funding will be disbursed in Spring 2022.

Funding in this program is very limited and applications will be considered on a first come first served basis and awards made until funds are exhausted. Once funds have been spent, all applicants will be notified.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Who is Eligible?

Current and newly enrolled students who show exceptional need by qualifying for the Pell Grant and other students who can show that they have been financially impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic may be eligible. Funding is limited so not all will receive the funds.

International students will be required to complete an application included in the e-mail sent with information on HEERF III Funding.

# How do I apply?

Students do not need to apply for HEERF III funding unless they are an international student. These students will be provided with an application to complete.

# Does this impact my financial aid?

No. Eligible students may receive both Financial Aid and HEERF III grants.

# How do I receive the funds?

Once your application is approved, you will receive funds by electronic deposit or check. Be sure to set up your Highlander One Card (through BankMobile) preferences and make sure your mailing address is up to date.

MCC provides equal educational opportunities to all individuals and does not discriminate against any individual regardless of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, gender, disability, age, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, pregnancy, or other legally protected category in its educational programs, activities, or

employment. <a href="http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXIV.pdf">http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXIV.pdf</a> (Download PDF reader)