

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) 2021 Fourth Quarter Report

BACKGROUND

On March 11, 2021, the President of the United States signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2). The ARP appropriated approximately \$39.6 billion for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) and represents the third stream of funding appropriated for HEERF to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.

The following information is provided by California State University, Long Beach as required by the Department of Education ("ED") in order to comply with the reporting requirements under the ARP (a)(1) programs.

CERTIFICATION

On April 17, 2020, CSULB signed and returned to the Department of Education the HEERF Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement, to receive HEERF I – CARES grant funds. As such, CSULB was not required to submit an application for the HEERF II or HEERF III Grant programs.

On April 25, 2020, CSULB received the CARES – HEERF I grant award notification providing \$20,864,720 in funding for emergency grants to students.

On March 11, 2021, CSULB received the CRRSAA – HEERF II grant award notification providing an additional \$20,864,720 in funding for continuing emergency grants to students,

On June 25, 2021, CSULB received the ARP – HEERF III grant award notification providing an additional \$59,147,455 in funding for more continuing emergency grants to students.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Table 1: Funding amounts and number of eligible students

Name	Amount
The total amount of funds CSULB has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under ARP (a)(1) programs	\$100,876,895
The total amount of all Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under ARP (a)(1) & (a)(2) programs from July 1–September 30, 2022	\$43,412,200
The estimated total number of students at CSULB that are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under ARP (a)(1) programs	41,383
The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under ARP (a)(1) & (a)(2) programs from September 1–December 31, 2022	40,101

DISBURSEMENT OF HEERF III PAYMENTS

Consistent with HEERF I HEERF II funding and in support of CSULB's Inclusive Excellence vision, automatic grant payments were provided to all eligible matriculated students enrolled for

the Fall 2021 semester. No applications were required for students to receive a payment of HEERF III funds. Payments were provided to students who met the following conditions:

- CSULB admitted students enrolled in a degree, credential, or certificate program.
- Enrolled in at least 1 unit for the Fall 2021 semester as of September 21, 2021.

Consistent with clarified eligibility criteria for HEERF III, undocumented, international, non-Title IV eligible, and students not eligible for federal benefits under PROWARA received payments during the Fall 2021 semester.

On October 13–14, 2021, each eligible student (40,101) was notified via email of the pending HEERF III automatic grant payment. Students were notified of their specific automatic grant payment amount and that funds would be released to CSULB Student account around October 15, 2021. Additionally, students were provided a link to the CSULB HEERF Phase III website, which included information on phase III implementation and an FAQ.

On October 15, 2021, CSULB released HEERF III automatic grant payments to student accounts which were immediately processed and directly refunded to students. Electronic refunds were sent to designated student bank account for students who had direct deposit information on file. We mailed paper checks to students who did not have direct deposit information on file. No additional instructions, directions, or guidance was provided to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

DETERMINATION OF AUTOMATIC AID AMOUNTS

Students eligible for an automatic grant were categorized into four groups. In accordance with HEERF guidelines, students defined as having “exceptional need” (those with an Expected Family Contribution at or below the Pell Grant EFC threshold) were prioritized by receiving the largest grant payment amounts.

Payments were provided to students based upon the following structure, using information from the 2021-2022 financial aid application (if filed):

Group 1: Students with an “Expected Family Contribution” = \$0 (Exceptional Need)

- Full-Time Enrollment: \$2,000
- Part-Time Enrollment: \$1,000

Group 2: Students with an “Expected Family Contribution” below the Pell Grant threshold of \$5,846 (Exceptional Need)

- Full-Time Enrollment: \$1,600
- Part-Time Enrollment: \$800

Group 3: Students who filed a financial aid application and have some “financial need”

- Full-Time Enrollment: \$800
- Part-Time Enrollment: \$400

Group 4: All other eligible students

- Full-Time Enrollment: \$200
- Part-Time Enrollment: \$100

Actual payments made to students during the fourth quarter of 2021 (October 1–December 31) are summarized in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Automatic aid payments by financial need and enrollment status

Students Financial Need	Enrollment Status	Aid amount	# of students	Total
Students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$0.	<i>Full-time</i>	\$2,000	9,246	\$18,492,000
Students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$0.	Less than full-time	\$1,000	2,154	\$2,154,000
Students with Pell Grant Eligible EFC	Full-time	\$1,600	7,561	\$12,097,600
Students with Pell Grant Eligible EFC	Less than full-time	\$800	1,553	\$1,242,400
Students with some financial need	Full-time	\$800	5,509	\$4,407,200
Students with some financial need	Less than full-time	\$400	1,399	\$559,600
All other qualified students	<i>Full-time</i>	\$400	9,618	\$3,847,200
All other qualified students	<i>Less than full-time</i>	\$200	3,061	\$612,200
TOTAL			40,101	\$43,412,200

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS CONCERNING HEERF PAYMENTS

No additional guidance was provided to HEERF Emergency grant recipients by CSULB.