

HEERF II Reporting

Background

The Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) was passed by the U.S. government to allocate financial support through several areas. As part of the CRRSAA, the Department of Education allocated additional funding to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). This funding is referred to as HEERF Phase II.

California State University, Long Beach is a beneficiary of \$67,421,424 in funding from HEERF Phase II, under section 314(a)(1). Of this amount, at least \$20,864,720 was required to be used to provide direct aid payments to students. CSULB also utilized \$2,110,500 of our Minority-Serving Institution (MSI) funding provided separately through HEERF, and \$335,080 of our institutional funding provided under section 314(a)(1), to augment our Phase II student grant payments. Overall, \$23,305,700 was used to provide direct aid payments to students in spring 2021.

Certification

On April 17, 2020, CSULB signed and returned to the Department of Education the CARES HEERF Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement. Institutions who received HEERF I Grant funds under the CARES Act were not required to apply for the HEERF II Grant.

CSULB received its HEERF II Grant Award Notification on March 11, 2021, and by drawing down funds authorized in this notification, CSULB signified its acceptance of the terms of the HEERF II funding.

Funding Overview

Table 1: Funding amounts and number of eligible students

Name	Amount
Total HEERF II funding received under section 314(a)(1)	\$67,421,424
HEERF Funding received under section 314(a)(1) reserved for emergency student grants	\$20,864,720
Additional Institutional funding received under section 314(a)(1) used for additional emergency student grants	\$330,480
Total MSI funding received used for additional emergency student grants	\$2,110,500
Total funding provided to students from HEERF Phase II and MSI (as of June 30, 2021)	\$23,305,700
Estimated total number of students eligible to receive federal benefits	34,853
Total number of students who received funding from HEERF Phase II	34,853

Disbursement of Automatic Grants

To promptly make available emergency financial aid grants from the HEERF fund to students, aid payments were processed automatically to students who met the following conditions:

- Enrolled in a degree program at CSULB
- Registered in at least 1 unit in the spring 2021 semester as of February 17, 2021
- A U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen eligible for federal benefits, as defined by 8 U.S. Code § 1641

For students whose eligibility we verified using existing financial aid information (34,820 students), we processed aid payments April 9-15, 2021. We sent aid payments by direct deposit for students who had direct deposit information on file. We mailed paper checks to students who did not have direct deposit information on file.

On April 9, 2021, we emailed an online verification form to students whose eligibility we could not verify (82 students). The deadline to complete the verification form was April 23, 2021. On April 29, 2021, we processed aid payments totaling \$4,600 to the students whose eligibility we verified after the initial disbursement (33 students).

Determination of Automatic Aid Amounts

California State University issued guidance on April 24, 2020 that HEERF grants be based on each student's documented financial need and in proportion to the financial difficulty faced as a result of COVID-19. The three primary categories included:

- Students with the lowest income status who received maximum state and/or federal aid
- Students with some financial need prior to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Students without regard to prior state and/or federal aid received

Additionally, the Department of Education's guidance on uses of the Emergency Student Grant portion of HEERF II indicated:

Institutions must make financial aid grants to students, which can be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care.

Along with the requirement to prioritize students with exceptional need, which CSULB identified as students with the lowest Expected Family Contribution (EFC) using the 2019-2020 FAFSA, funds were distributed to students in accordance with Table 2.

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

Student Financial Need	Enrollment Status	Aid Amount	# of Students	Total
Students with the most financial need (\$0 Expected Family Contribution)	<i>Full-time</i>	\$1,200	8,422	\$10,106,400
	<i>Less than full-time</i>	\$600	2,030	\$1,218,000
Students with Pell Grant Eligible EFC (defined as exceptional need)	<i>Full-time</i>	\$1000	6,720	\$6,720,000
	<i>Less than full-time</i>	\$500	1,466	\$733,000
Students with some financial need (Expected Family Contribution below Cost of Attendance)	<i>Full-time</i>	\$500	4,959	\$2,479,500
	<i>Less than full-time</i>	\$250	1,350	\$337,500
All other qualified students	<i>Full-time</i>	\$200	7,207	\$1,441,400
	<i>Less than full-time</i>	\$100	2,699	\$269,900
TOTAL			34,853	\$23,305,700