

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERFII) CRRSAA Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students Quarterly Report

The information provided below is in compliance with the reporting requirements for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) provision of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). The total amount of HEERF II funds received by Vernon College have been expended. Therefore, this is the final report and it covers all HEERF II fund expenditures for Section 314(a)(1) Student Portion funds.

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, a minimum of \$690,553 of the funds received under Section 314(a)(1) Student Portion of the CRRSAA to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Vernon College acknowledges that it signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and used no less than 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Applications were not required to receive supplemental awards under the CRRSSA. Vernon College was required to provide the same amount in financial aid grants to students from the new CRRSAA funds that were required under its original CARES Act Student Aid Portion award: \$690,553.

2. The total amount of funds that the institution received from the Department of Education pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Vernon College received \$690,553 in HEERF II funds.

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA (HEERF II) as of the date of submission of the calendar quarterly report.

As of April 7, 2021, Vernon College distributed \$712,350 in HEERF II Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible students.

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 314(1)(a) of the CRRSAA (HEERF II).

Vernon College determined that as of March 2021, 1,667 students were eligible to receive HEERF II Student Financial Aid Grants.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA (HEERF II).

As of April 7, 2021, Vernon College distributed HEERF II funds to 1,667 eligible students.

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students received Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they received under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA (HEERF II).

Eligible students were U.S. Citizens or eligible non-citizens that were enrolled as of March 25th in the Spring semester as a regular student in a Title IV eligible degree or certificate program.

The CRRSSA required that Vernon College prioritize eligible students with exceptional need, such as students who received Pell Grants, in awarding Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Vernon College developed three tiers of eligibility using the following methodology:

Tier 1 - 0 – 5711 EFC were awarded \$600 each

Tier 2 - 5712 – 15,000 EFC were awarded \$300 each

Tier 3 - 15,001 and over EFC or no EFC were awarded \$150 each

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

Eligible students received an email. The email provided information about the HEERF II grants, explained the criteria for each tier, and indicated the award amounts for each tier. Other information, such as how and when students would receive their funds, and how much they would receive was also provided. Students were advised to ensure their direct deposit designation was set up or their address was correct in the Admissions Office. (See email below)

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), Vernon College received \$690,553 from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II) to provide emergency financial grants to students and to ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. HEERF II grants may be used for any component of a student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to Coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care.

Vernon College has determined that you meet the criteria to receive a HEERF II grant. Vernon College will automatically disburse the HEERF II grants to all eligible students with no separate application required.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will I receive the money?

HEERF II grants will be issued in the form of a direct deposit or check sent to your current mailing address. **For quicker receipt of funds**, please ensure that you have a direct deposit designation set-up through My VC. If you choose to not set-up a direct deposit designation, please make sure your mailing address is correct in the Admissions Office.

When will I receive the money?

Vernon College will start processing disbursements on April 6. You should receive these funds in your bank account within 2-3 business days if you have set up direct deposit, or otherwise via check to your mailing address in approximately 7 – 10 days depending on the US Postal Service.

What if I still have an account balance?

The HEERF II grant will not be automatically applied to your account balance. After receiving a HEERF II grant, you may use the funds to make a payment to your account if you choose to do so. Any outstanding balance owed to Vernon College remains your responsibility.

How much will I receive?

CRRSSA requires that Vernon College prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. HEERF II grants will be awarded as follows:

\$600 eligible students enrolled with a high level of financial need

\$300 eligible students enrolled with a medium level of financial need

\$150 eligible students enrolled with a low level of financial need

High Level of Financial Need:

- students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$0 - \$5,711 according to the student's current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Medium Level of Financial Need:

- students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$5,712 - \$15,000 according to the student's current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Low Level of Financial Need:

- students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of more than \$15,000 according to the student's current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- students without a current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file at Vernon College

Do I need to repay the money?

No, HEERF II grants do not need to be repaid.

Will this grant affect my other financial aid?

No, HEERF II grants will not impact other financial aid. This is a special grant to help you manage unexpected expenses related to the coronavirus and continue your education despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have any questions, please contact the Financial Aid Office or the Business Office at 940-552-6291 or 940-696-8752.