

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

The College was awarded funding under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) which was authorized through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden in March 2021. The provisions of the award require the College to post the following update:

- In June 2021, the College was notified of its award grant totaling \$2,160,076 from the Department of Education. As required under the award, the College intends to use no less than 50 percent of funds received to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
- With regard to the student portion of the award, student grant payments, totaling \$1,069,200, were distributed to students in July. The remaining \$10,838 of the funding remains to be distributed. This remaining balance was an intentional decision by the College to set aside funding for students who may come forward with exceptional need and/or as a result of the College's efforts to conduct direct outreach to financial aid applicants about the opportunity to receive a financial aid adjustment due to the recent unemployment of a family member or independent student, or other circumstance, which is a requirement of HEERF III.
- Given the terms of the award, all students were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the ARPA program and 1,144 participated and received Emergency Financial Aid Grants.
- The College distributed this new grant allocation to students consistent with the approach used under the previous Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) grants and applied updated guidance from the Department of Education. Specifically, students who were enrolled at the College during the Fall 2020 / Spring 2021 academic year are eligible for an emergency grant. The amount of each student grant may vary based on student financial need and whether or not a student was enrolled in one or both semesters.

- The College notified and released instructions, directions, and guidance to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants via email, through a letter included with their grant payment and by additional outreach efforts conducted by the Financial Aid Office and Student Finance Departments.
- The institutional portion of the award, totaling \$1,080,038, was used to reimburse the College in accordance with HEERF regulations. As previously reported on the June 30th quarterly report, the College drew down this portion of the award on June 22, 2021.