AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

The Federal Emergency Grants:

The College of Idaho signed & returned a Certification of Agreement with the Department of Education to accept allocated funds from the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2. The ARP established and funded the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.

Federal Emergency Aid Grant Reporting:

The student portion of the award for HEERF I, II & III was $404,508, $404,508 and $1,080,038 respectively, totaling $1,889,054. As of July 31, 2021, only $10,838 of the student portion remained unspent. 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 additional financial aid due to the recent unemployment of a family member or independent student, or other circumstances, which is a requirement of HEERF III.

The estimated total number of students potentially eligible to be considered to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants in quarter four of calendar year 2021 was 1,482. In December 2021, the remaining $10,838 in HEERF III funds was disbursed to 93 unduplicated students.

Additional information CARES Act information may be found on the College’s website at https://www.collegeofidaho.edu/fall-2021-updates

Federal Emergency Aid Grant Criteria and Eligibility:

The College distributed the remaining 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 on or after March 13, 2020, the date of declaration of the national emergency due to the coronavirus, were eligible for emergency financial aid grants from the HEERF III, regardless of whether they completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or were eligible for Title IV aid. These additional HEERF III funds were prioritized to students with exceptional need or with extraordinary financial circumstances. The College notified and released instructions, directions, and guidance to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grant.
Aid Grants via email and through additional outreach efforts conducted by the Financial Aid Office, Student Finance Department within the Business Office and Student Affairs Office. Students were asked to complete a grant application. These grant applications were reviewed based on the aforementioned criteria. Additionally, email correspondence was sent to students to inform them of the status of their HEERF III grant application. For this final distribution, the maximum award provided during quarter four of 2021 was $116.54.