



ARPA (HEERF III) / Unencumbered CRRSAA (HEERF II) Act Student Grants Policy & Procedure – SUPPLEMENTAL

Effective 11.4.21-12.17.21

PURPOSE & OVERVIEW

The *Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III)* is authorized by the *American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021* and included additional COVID-19 relief for institutions of higher education. This COVID stimulus bill included \$40 billion, available through September 30, 2023, for higher education institutions and students, using the same *Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)* model established in the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020*.

All previous unexpended *CARES (HEERF I)* and *Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSAA) Act funds (HEERF II)*, both student share and institutional share, may be used in the same way they are permitted to be used under the *ARPA/HEERF III* rules. All awards made under *ARPA/HEERF III* rules, including previously unencumbered *CARES (HEERF I)* and *CRRSAA (HEERF II) Act funds*, shall henceforth be labeled *ARPA/HEERF III*. The College reserves the right to award all *ARPA (HEERF III)* and previously unencumbered *CARES (HEERF I)* and *CRRSAA (HEERF II)* funds (labeled as *ARPA/HEERF III*), during the fall 2021 academic semester as it deems necessary. The College shall continue to make awards to eligible students, in accordance with this Policy & Procedure, until all available unencumbered *ARPA/HEERF III* funds are depleted, there are no more eligible students to award, the funds expire, or this Policy & Procedure is retired and replaced by a College Policy & Procedure that supersedes it, whichever comes first.

RATIONAL FOR SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY & PROCEDURE

All students enrolled in the fall 2021 semester who were deemed eligible through the Original ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure (*ARPA (HEERF III) / Unencumbered CRRSAA (HEERF II) Act Student Grants, Policy & Procedure – ORIGINAL*) on or after the Policy & Procedure's census date (9.16.21, the day after the fall 2021 semester's add/drop period ended), were awarded ARPA Student Grants. Post grant disbursement, circumstances were identified (misdirected student drop requests, waitlisted Dual Enrollment MOU additions, unclaimed/uncashed paper checks, and other student or administrative circumstances) that, after investigation, caused an ARPA recipient to be identified as ineligible to receive ARPA Student Grants under the Original ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure. All ineligible ARPA disbursements were revoked when identified.

Revoked ineligible disbursements returned ARPA students grants to the College's ARPA Student Grant allocation and the College was no longer considered to have exhausted its ARPA student grant allocation under the distribution mechanisms outlined in the Original ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure. Since all eligible students at the time of eligibility determination under the Original ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure already received an ARPA Student Grant, a Supplemental Policy & Procedure was necessary to address the positive ARPA Student Grant allocation balance created by ineligible disbursement revocations during the remainder of the fall 2021 semester.

COMPONENTS & MECHANISMS

Under this Supplemental ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure, the College shall use all components of, and mechanisms within, its Original ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure (including student eligibility determinations and exclusions, Need and award calculation, disbursement, and tracking/reporting), but shall limit this Supplemental Policy & Procedure's application scope to the following student population:

- Domestic students in for-credit courses who are enrolled in the fall 2021 semester on the day after the conclusion of the second eight-week module's add/drop period (census date 11.4.21) but did not receive an ARPA Student Grant under the Original ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure.

The College's Original ARPA Student Grant Policy & Procedure is located at <https://www.nwc.edu/financialaid/cares/fall2021>.