

**HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND III  
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**

**Student Aid Report – ARP Report**

**Quarterly Report for Term of July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 posted October 5, 2021**

- (1) Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) was awarded, pursuant to Section 314(a)(1) of the American Rescue Plan student aid funds and agrees to draw down funds and be bound by the conditions set forth by the terms and conditions of the supplemental agreement. SMSU returned the Certification and Agreement that SMSU has been awarded these funds and are providing aid to Students.
- (2) From the ARP, SMSU was awarded \$3,245,174.00 for student aid funding and \$3,206,386.00 for institutional expenses and lost revenues.
- (3) As of September 30, 2021, \$245,500.00 has been awarded to 707 students through financial aid grants. No dollars have been awarded to through an emergency grant award process. The emergency grant process will begin in October 2021. The total awarded to students through September 30, 2021 was \$245,500.00. No fall or spring awards were issued prior to September 30, 2021. Expected distribution for fall awards is early to mid-October.
- (4) Based on the criteria listed in #6.1. below 707 students were eligible for ARP grants.
- (5) As of September 30, 2021 707 students have received awards.
- (6) The following criteria was used to determine need for the block grants through the ARP funding.
  1. Summer Term Block Grants will be awarded to students based on the following criteria which prioritizes grants to students with exceptional need:
    - a. Enrolled in >0 credits for term 20221 (summer 2021).
    - b. Eliminated MN State employees with tuition waivers and those paying the senior citizen tuition rate
    - c. Eliminated PSEO and concurrent enrolled students
    - d. Eliminated students not admitted to a credentialing program/degree offered at the university, students exclusively enrolled in non-credit bearing courses for the term (such as AE), and International students. International students will be included in the Fall 20223 and Spring 2022 plan.
    - e. Students with an Expected Family Contributions (EFC) between 0 and 5711 (Pell eligibility EFC) will receive \$500 each
    - f. All other enrolled students, less those noted above will receive \$250 each
    - g. Checks or direct deposit will be used for the awards; we will not create an opt in process to have the grants applied to the student's university account
    - h. HEERF 3 ARP emergency grant applications will not be available for summer session. Emergency grants will be part of the Fall and Spring Plans.
  2. After awarding summer grants, \$2,999,674.00 remains for student aid. Ten percent of this will be set aside for the fall and spring emergency grant processes, leaving

\$2,699,707 for fall and spring block grants. This funding will be split between fall and spring; therefore, there will be \$1,349,853.30 available for each term. Fall Block Grants will be awarded to students based on the following criteria, which prioritizes grants to students with exceptional need:

- a. Enrolled in >0 credits for term 20223 (Fall 2021).
- b. Eliminated MN State employees with tuition waivers and those paying the senior citizen tuition rate
- c. Eliminated PSEO and concurrent enrolled students
- d. Eliminated students not admitted to a credentialing program/degree offered at the university, students exclusively enrolled in non-credit bearing courses for the term (such as AE).
- e. International students are eligible for emergency grants. Because of the difficulty in determining need for International students, they will be included in the emergency grant process but not the block grants.
- f. Students block grants will be provided based on their undergraduate or graduate designation, number of credits in which they are enrolled, and their estimated family contribution (EFC) with two groups, one between 0 and 5846 (Pell eligible EFC) and the other group with EFCs of 5,847 to 20,000. A table of estimated awards for Fall 2021 is listed in g.

g.

Undergraduate EFC 0-5846		1-5 credits	6-11 credits	12+ credits
\$ Award		\$450	\$850	\$1275
# eligible		14	165	541
Total		\$6300	\$140,250	\$689,775

Undergraduate EFC 5847-20,000		1-5 credits	6-11 credits	12+ credits
\$ Award		\$375	\$650	\$950
# eligible		10	76	363
Total		\$3,750	\$49,400	\$344,850

Graduate EFC 0-5846		1-4 credits	5-8 credits	9+ credits
\$ Award		\$350	\$500	\$750
# eligible		4	49	57
Total		\$1,400	\$24,500	\$42,750

Graduate EFC 5847-20,000		1-4 credits	5-8 credits	9+ credits
\$ Award		\$300	\$400	\$650
# eligible		2	34	46
Total		\$600	\$13,600	\$29,900

- h. Checks or direct deposit will be used for the awards; we will not create an opt in process to have the grants applied to the student's university account

3. Emergency grant applications will be available through an online application process using “Academic Works” – same process as CARES and CRRSAA funding which worked well
  - a. There will be \$299,967.40 available for emergency grants, half for Fall Semester and half for Spring Semester
  - b. The \$299,967.40 is approximately 9.2% of the total \$3,245,174 available for all student aid
  - c. A team led by Interim Executive Director of Enrollment and Student Success will review emergency grant applications. Grants will be awarded up to \$1,000 per individual, on an exception basis grants may be for a higher amount.
  - d. A question on the application form will be included for a student to opt in to have their emergency grant applied to their university account and to any balances owed to the University

(7) Letters were sent to the student recipients from the President for summer aid and will be sent for the fall and spring aid. The following information was/will be included in the letter.

- a) The ARP requires that the emergency money be distributed to students to cover student expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. These eligible expenses include those considered a part of student’s cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and childcare.
- b) In addition to the above grant, students may also apply for an Emergency ARP Grant through the Academic Works website at <https://smsu.academicworks.com/opportunities/6573>
- c) Information was posted on the SMSU Covid webpage <https://www.smsu.edu/campuslife/healthservices/healthalerts/covid19/index.html> and linked from the Financial Aid webpage <https://www.smsu.edu/campuslife/financialaid/index.html>

For further information or an accessible format, please contact Vice President for Finance and Administration, Deb Kerkaert, at [deb.kerkaert@smsu.edu](mailto:deb.kerkaert@smsu.edu) or 507-537-6093.