



Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III American Rescue Plan Student Aid Fall and Spring 2021 Disbursement

In March, the federal government passed the American Rescue Plan, 2021 (ARP). A portion of the relief package is to fund the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III). A total of \$3,245,174 was awarded to SMSU. SMSU awarded \$245,500 to eligible students during the Summer Term 2021.

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 child care.

Campus Plan Fall and Spring Aid:

1. Block Grants will be awarded to students based on the following criteria:
 - a. \$2,699,707 is available for Fall and Spring disbursements, approximately half will be distributed each semester
 - b. Enrolled in >0 credits for term 20223
 - c. Eliminated MN State employees with tuition waivers, incarcerated students, and those paying the senior citizen tuition rate
 - d. Eliminated PSEO and concurrent enrolled students
 - e. Eliminated students not admitted to a credentialing program/degree offered at the university and students exclusively enroll in non-credit bearing courses for the term
 - f. International students are eligible for the emergency grants but not the block grants.
 - g. Students block grants will be provided based on Undergraduate or Graduate designation, number of credits in which they are enrolled, and on their estimated family contribution (EFC) with two groups, one between 0 and 5846 (Pell eligibility EFC) and the other group with EFCs between 5,847 and 20,000; Spring disbursement amounts may change slightly as the number of eligible students may change. Any leftover funds will be added to the emergency grant process.

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|----|----------------------------------|--|----------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| h. | Undergraduate EFC 0-5846 | | \$ Award | 1-5 credits | 6-11 credits | 12+ credits |
| | | | | \$ 450 | \$ 850 | \$ 1,275 |
| | Undergraduate EFC 5847-20,000 | | \$ Award | 1-5 credits | 6-11 credits | 12+ credits |
| | | | | \$ 375 | \$ 650 | \$ 950 |
| | Graduate EFC 0-5846 | | \$ Award | 1-4 credits | 5-8 credits | 9+ credits |
| | | | | \$ 350 | \$ 500 | \$ 750 |
| | Graduate EFC 5847-20,000 | | \$ Award | 1-4 credits | 5-8 credits | 9+ credits |
| | | | | \$ 300 | \$ 400 | \$ 650 |

i. Checks or direct deposit will be used for the awards

2. HEERF3 ARP emergency grant applications will be available for fall and spring semester. Ten percent of total remaining funds, \$299,967 will be set aside for this process. Half of the funds will be used in the fall and the remainder in the spring. Students will apply through the [Academic Works](#) website, to be linked on the COVID webpage. The same student criteria is used for the emergency grant applications as used above for the block grants; International students are included in the emergency grant process.

Communication Plan:

3. The block grants process will be communicated to students through an email from President Jayasuriya.
 - a. Grant information will be emailed to all students.
 - b. An additional email will be sent at the time of disbursement specific to the award to eligible students
 - c. An email will go out to all students regarding the emergency grant process when it opens
 - d. Information regarding the grants process will be included on the COVID webpage and linked from the Financial Aid webpage