

Saint Vincent College & Seminary
Grant PR/AWARD NUMBER P425E201969

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Student Aid
Quarter 1 Report

Introduction

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (H.R. 748), which provides emergency relief funds to organizations and individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), found in Section 18004 of the CARES Act, provides funding to institutions of higher education “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.”

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. In total, the CRRSAA authorizes \$81.88 billion in support for education, in addition to the \$30.75 billion expeditiously provided last spring through the CARES Act, Public Law 116-136.

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Quarter 1 Report provides details on the Student Aid awards (P425E201969) Saint Vincent College and Seminary received under the HEERF.

QUARTERTLY REPORT 7/10/2021

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used the applicable amount of funds designated under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Saint Vincent College & Seminary reviewed, signed, and returned the U.S. Department of Education’s Certification and Agreement for HEERF funds for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students on April 15, 2020. Table 1. provides information on the amount of funds designated for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students in the Grant Award Notification (GAN) for each HEERF award. Saint Vincent College & Seminary assures that it has used, or intends to use, the applicable amount of funds under each HEERF award for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for Students.

Table 1. HEERF Student Aid Funding to Saint Vincent College & Seminary

HEERF Fund	GAN Date	Student Aid Award Amount	Amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants Disbursed to Students To Date
HEERF I	4/25/2020	\$ 802,718	\$ 802,718
HEERF II/ CRRSAA	1/17/2021	\$ 802,718	\$ 802,718
HEERF III/ ARP	5/20/2021	\$ 2,029,164	\$ -- 0 -- *
Totals		\$ 3,634,600	\$ 1,605,436

*HEERF III/ARP funds have not yet been expended.

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

As indicated in Table 1., Saint Vincent College & Seminary has received \$802,718 under HEERF I, \$802,718 under HEERF II/CRRSAA, and \$2,029,164 under HEERF III/ARP for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for Students.

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the initial report and every calendar quarter thereafter).

Saint Vincent disbursed a total of \$802,718 in emergency financial aid grants to students under HEERF I from May to October 2020.

Saint Vincent disbursed \$802,718 in HEERF II/CRRSAA funds as emergency financial aid grants to students on March 23, 2021. (The HEERF II/CRRSAA funds were drawn down on March 31, 2021.)

The HEERF III/ARP funds have not been disbursed to date.

Tables 2. and 3. provide information on the timing of the disbursements, as well as the number of emergency financial aid grants and student recipients per disbursement.

Table 2. Disbursement of HEERF I Emergency Financial Aid Grants

Disbursement Date for Financial Aid Checks	Student Aid Award Amount	Number of Student Emergency Aid Recipients
5/20/2020	\$ 429,500	339
6/8/2020	\$ 62,500	55
7/31/2020	\$ 38,000	39
8/7/2020	\$ 7,500	6
8/29/2020	\$ 1,500	2
10/2/2020	\$ 263,718	305
TOTALS	\$ 802,718	527 unduplicated
		746 total disbursements

Table 3. Disbursement of HEERF II/CRRSAA Emergency Financial Aid Grants

Disbursement Date for Financial Aid Checks	Student Aid Award Amount	Number of Student Emergency Aid Recipients
3/23/2021	\$802,718	701
TOTALS	\$802,718	701 unduplicated
		701 total disbursements

HEERF III/ARP funds have not yet been expended.

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution that are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

HEERF I: Based on guidance from the U.S. Department of Education, the number of Saint Vincent students that were eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and therefore eligible to receive CARES Act HEERF I funding, was 1,353. This total excluded College and Seminary students who did not file a FAFSA; those whose FAFSAs were rejected or incomplete; international, non-citizen students; and others not meeting the eligibility criteria. Saint Vincent used two years of FAFSA data to determine Title IV eligibility and subsequent eligibility for CARES Act HEERF funding.

HEERF II/CRRSAA: Saint Vincent College estimates that 1,000 students were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the HEERF II/CRRSAA program based on the criteria provided by the U.S. Department of Education at the time of application.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

Table 4. Number of Students Receiving HEERF Emergency Financial Aid Grants

HEERF Fund	Number of Students Receiving Financial Aid Grants
HEERF I	527 unduplicated undergraduate and graduate students
HEERF II/ CRRSAA	701 unduplicated undergraduate and graduate students
HEERF III/ ARP	0. HEERF III/ARP funds have not yet been distributed

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

HEERF I: An institutional review committee consisting of the Vice President of Finance and Administration (Chief Financial Officer), Assistant Vice President for Student Success and Retention, Dean of Students for Student Affairs, and the Director of Financial Aid evaluated applications for Emergency Financial Aid Grants based on information provided by students regarding financial difficulties, eligibility to receive Title IV aid, academic level, and expected family contribution (EFC). Recognizing that EFC is based upon prior year income information, all students were advised of their family’s opportunity to request a professional judgment review of the EFC based on 2020 family projected income.

Determination of awards to students recommended by the review committee were approved by the President of Saint Vincent College and the institution’s legal counsel.

Award amounts were based on the student’s eligibility for Title IV funding and identified financial need due to the disruption of campus operations because of coronavirus, academic level, and EFC. Table 5. details the amount of student aid awards under HEERF I. All funds were disbursed as of 10/2/2020.

Table 5. HEERF I Student Aid Award Amounts

Number of Students	Award Amount	Total Awards
147	\$ 500.00	\$ 73,500.00
65	\$ 965.34	\$ 62,747.10
174	\$ 965.35	\$167,970.90
83	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 83,000.00
277	\$ 1,500.00	\$415,500.00
TOTAL		\$802,718

HEERF II/CRRSAA: The U.S. Department of Education has given colleges the discretion to determine how to distribute the HEERF II/CRRSAA Emergency Funding to eligible students with the understanding that the neediest students receive preference. An institutional review committee consisting of the Vice President of Finance and Administration (Chief Financial Officer), Assistant Vice President for Student Success and Retention, Dean of Students for Student Affairs, and the Director of Financial Aid concluded that SVC would use a block grant approach and award funding to all PELL eligible students regardless of application. Other Title IV eligible applicants were awarded according to student level and financial need.

A total of \$802,718 was awarded as Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Table 6. details the amount of student aid awards under HEERF II/CRRSAA. All funds were disbursed as of 03/23/2021.

Table 6. HEERF II/CRRSAA Student Aid Award Amounts

Number of Students	Award Amount	Total Awards
150	\$ 450.00	\$ 67,500.00
159	\$ 1,000.00	\$159,000.00
22	\$ 1,149.41	\$ 25,287.02
119	\$ 1,149.42	\$136,780.98
251	\$ 1,650.00	\$414,150.00
TOTAL		\$802,718

HEERF III/ARP funds have not yet been expended.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

HEERF I: In accordance with the Secretary of Education’s instructions for institutions to issue aid to students as soon as possible under the student aid portion of the CARES Act HEERF, the President of Saint Vincent College sent an email message with a link to the electronic request noted below to all degree-seeking students enrolled for the spring 2020 semester, on April 24th, 2020. Each instructor of online classes was directed to remind students of this opportunity during online class sessions, and a second email reminder was sent on May 6, 2020 by the Director of Financial Aid. This information also appeared on the main page of the institution’s portal page and two separate pages of the institution’s website, both available to all SVC students.

Saint Vincent created an online request form with an electronic signature. By completing the form with their name, student ID, and electronic signature, students indicate via a checklist how the campus closure has affected them financially. The application allows the student an opportunity to add additional comments not covered by the checklist. The form was also made available for students to download, print, and return. Students submitted the form indicating

they were requesting emergency funding related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19 as noted above and also that any funds received would be used for this purpose. Round 1 requests received by May 8th were reviewed during the week of May 11th and checks were disbursed on May 20th.

The online request remained available to allow those that did not apply by May 8th to do so. The same pattern of collection, review, and payment was followed for subsequent rounds. Round 2 disbursement occurred on June 8th. Additional disbursements were made on July 31st, August 7th, and August 29th. A second email message with a link to the electronic request was sent to all degree-seeking students with enrollment in the fall 2020 semester on September 8, 2020. The form was also made available for students to download, print, and return. Students submitted the form indicating they were requesting emergency funding related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19 as noted above and also that any funds received would be used for this purpose. The remainder of the funds earmarked for students was disbursed on October 2nd and the link to the application was removed from the website.

HEERF II/CRRSAA: The President of Saint Vincent College sent an email message with a link to an electronic request to all degree-seeking students enrolled for the spring 2021 semester, on March 2, 2021. Each instructor was directed to remind students of this opportunity during online and in person class sessions, and a second email reminder was sent on March 9, 2021 by the Director of Financial Aid. This information also appeared on the main page of the institution's portal page and the institution's website, both available to all SVC students. The deadline for application was March 10, 2021.

By completing the online request form with name, student ID, and electronic signature, the student indicated the understanding that funds would be used for any component of the cost of attendance, or emergency costs due to COVID-19. The form was also made available for students to download, print, and return.

Reminder information regarding the use of the funds was included with the disbursement of funds.