

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. Students cannot apply for assistance directly from the U.S. Department of Education. Rather, institutions have the responsibility of determining how the grants will be distributed to students, how the amount of each student grant is calculated, and the development of any instructions or directions that are provided to students about the grant.

On May 25, 2021, funds were allocated to the university through the ARP (HEERF III) expressly for Financial Aid Grants to Students in the amount of \$798,819. The Certification filed under the CARES Act was satisfactory for the university to accept funds allocated by the ARP. The only stipulation is that a draw upon those ARP funds must occur within 90 days of the award. The university has until August 23, 2021 to make a draw on these funds. No distributions to students were made and, consequently, no draws occurred during the period covered by this report.

The Department of Education requires that this communication pertaining to the award proceeds be updated every 45 days after the initial report.