

ARP Emergency Grants to Students First Quarter Report (January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022)

The remaining student emergency grant funds from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) were awarded during the first quarter of 2022. Students who had been awarded funds during the prior fall 2021 term and were also enrolled in the spring 2022 term did not need to reapply they received automatic consideration based upon their prior application. Otherwise, students could complete the short application, which was open from Monday, January 3, 2022 through January 31, 2022.

In accordance with guidance of prioritizing students with exceptional financial need, all students who had a disbursed Federal Pell Grant for the spring 2022 term as of February 4, 2022, were automatically awarded an emergency grant, even if they did not complete an application. The thought process was the same as the prior rounds of HEERF funds in that the work group felt confident that all Federal Pell Grant recipients incurred pandemic-related educational expenses regardless of whether they applied.

Similar with the process for awarding funds in the fall 2021 term, for those students who completed an application and were determined to be eligible, keeping in the mind the exceptional need guidance, the work group divided students into tiers based upon the EFC as calculated by the 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as of February 4, 2022 (EFC's are subject to change). As noted below, award amounts varied based upon the tier.

- Tier 1 – Students with an EFC of 5,846 or below were awarded grants of \$1,325. The previously mentioned Federal Pell Grant recipients would be included within this tier.
- Tier 2 – Students with an EFC of 5,847 to 24,324 were awarded grants of \$1,025. This would include those students above the Federal Pell Grant eligibility up to the cost of attendance (COA) used for an undergraduate Wisconsin resident who is full-time student and living on or off-campus (not with parents).
- Tier 3 – Students with an EFC greater than 24,324 were awarded grants of \$825. Using the EFC per the FAFSA is the most consistent manner to determine need, but it must be noted that the 2021-22 FAFSA used 2019 federal tax information, thus it may no longer be reflective of the student's current situation. Therefore, as these students completed the application and certified they incurred emergency expenses due to COVID-19 it was determined that they should also receive an award. Unlike the previous two emergency grants, there are no eligibility requirements tied to the FAFSA, such as citizenship. Therefore, even students who were not eligible to complete the FAFSA are eligible for emergency grants. Based upon the inability to determine their need, these students were treated the same as students determined to have no need.
- Tier 4 - Unlike the previous two emergency grants, students did not need to be currently enrolled. Students enrolled on or after March 13, 2020 (the date the national emergency was declared) are eligible for the emergency grants and were awarded grants of \$250.

Funds were paid through the students account and automatically generated a refund. Students were sent an email notifying them of the receipt of the funds and that they may use the funds for any component of their cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arose due to the coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare.

Tier	Award Amount	Population	# of Students	Total
1	\$1,325	EFC <5,846	6,097	\$8,078,525
2	\$1,025	EFC 5,847 – 24,324	1,938	\$1,986,450
3	\$825	EFC >24,324 (No Need / No FAFSA)	2,350	\$1,938,750
4	\$250	Not Active Student	316	\$ 79,000
		Checks re-issued during first quarter or additional full/partial awards to Federal Pell Grant eligible students for the fall 2021 term (amounts between \$300 and \$1,350)	60	\$ 68,150
		TOTAL FUNDS COMMITTED JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2022	10,761	\$12,150,875

The total amount of funds committed as of March 31, 2022, was \$25,322,825, which exceeds the original allocation. Due to the need to spend and close out the fund in mid-May 2022 per the agreement, funds were over awarded as we found with the prior HEERF rounds, a small percentage of students will not cash the check for some reason. Students were sent multiple emails/texts that all checks needed to be cashed by no later than March 31, 2022. Soon afterwards (in quarter 2), checks will be cancelled and if funds remain, they will quickly be reawarded to other eligible students.