

From: UWM Department of Financial Aid <finaid@uwm.edu>

Date: Friday, August 6, 2021 at 6:19 PM

To: Barbara J Owens <owens35@uwm.edu>

Subject: Federal Relief Funds Available for Incoming UWM Students

The federal government has given UWM just over \$25 million of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) grants through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to help students who have incurred financial hardship due to COVID-19. Funds are available for costs associated with attending UWM or emergency costs due to COVID-19.



Department of **FINANCIAL AID**
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT *and*
MILITARY EDUCATION BENEFITS

Dear Barbara,

The federal government has given UWM just over \$25 million of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) grants through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to help students who have incurred financial hardship due to COVID-19. Funds are available for [costs associated with attending UWM](#) or emergency costs due to COVID-19.

As an incoming student to UWM in Fall 2021, you are eligible to apply for these grants.

To qualify for a HEERF you must:

- Be enrolled at UWM (This includes students who start classes in Fall 2021).
- Be enrolled past the census date (after the 10th day of classes).
- Have incurred emergency expenses related to the cost of attendance or costs that arose due to COVID-19, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare.

Details on [HEERF grant qualifications](#) are available on the Dean of Students web page.

Students with exceptional financial need, such as those eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, will be given priority for these grants. While you do not need to complete the 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) to apply for a grant, we encourage you to do so.

Because FAFSA information is based on the year prior, it may not have captured your current financial situation. If you or your parents (if you are their dependent) have experienced a loss of employment or reduced income due to COVID-19, and have completed the 21-22 FAFSA, you may be eligible to have your financial aid package reviewed. The 21-22 [Special Circumstance Form](#) is available for that purpose. The Financial Aid Office is experiencing a large volume of appeals, so it is extremely important that all supporting documentation, as outlined on the form, be submitted at the same time.

If you meet the qualifications for the HEERF grant, complete a short [grant application](#). Use your EPanther ID and password (same as used for your PAWS account) to log into the site. Please apply only once. HEERF grants will be determined, in part, by how many applications are received. We want to help as many students as possible.

All applications must be submitted by 8 a.m. CST, Monday, Sept. 13, 2021, to be considered.

If you have questions about eligibility or the grant application process, email caresgrant@uwm.edu.





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