

CRRSA Act Reporting (HEERF II)

Quarterly Reporting for March 31, 2021

Certification

Illinois State University has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and intends to use all of funds allocated for Emergency Financial Aid Grants received under the CRRSA Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Funds Distributed and Student Eligibility

As of March 31, 2021, Illinois State University received \$8,060,711 of Emergency Financial Aid funds under the CRRSA Act (HEERF II) and has distributed \$7,229,500 of federal funds in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 8,338 student. Illinois State University had an estimated 16,546 students eligible to participate in programs under the CRRSA Act.

Method Used to Determine Students Eligibility (Spring 2021)

Illinois State University prioritized funds to students with extenuating financial need based on the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) and identified students eligible for Title IV federal financial aid through the presence of a FAFSA record. Block grants of \$500 or \$1,000 were awarded to students enrolled in the spring 2021 term who were US Citizens or eligible non-citizens. Priority was given to undergraduate students that fall within the EFC ranges of the state and federal need-based Pell and MAP Grant programs. Awarding criteria was as follows:

Undergraduate Students:

\$1,000 Awards to students with an EFC between \$0 - \$9,000

\$500 Awards to students with an EFC between \$9,001 - \$15,000

Graduate Students:

\$500 Awards to students with an EFC between \$0 - \$15,000

Eligible students that experienced extenuating financial hardship but did not meet the block grant awarding criteria could submit an [application online](#) for consideration. An emergency grant committee reviewed applications for awarding \$500 awards. Funds were distributed directly to students unless students provided consent to apply funds to outstanding balance.

Notification to Students

On March 11th, Illinois State University notified students through the emailed Campus Weekly Coronavirus Update:

Emergency Grant Funds

Illinois State University has received \$8,060,711 from the federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to provide emergency financial aid grants to eligible students due to the financial impact of coronavirus. The federal government requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. Since many students have been impacted financially by the coronavirus, the Financial Aid Office used the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to identify students with the most financial need. To date, over \$7,200,000 of the funds have been awarded to more than 8,300 eligible students. Students receiving awards were notified on Tuesday, March 9.

Students that did not meet the initial awarding criteria and can demonstrate extenuating financial need may submit a detailed explanation for consideration of grant funds through an online application process. The application will be posted on March 19, 2021 to the [Financial Aid Office website](#).

In addition to this email, information regarding emergency grants is available to students on the [Illinois State University Student Emergency Grant Funds page](#).