

# Reporting of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Grants to Students

New Mexico Junior College (NMJC) signed and returned the [Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students](#) and intends to use the funds to provide the mandated amount of at least 50 percent of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF I, II & III) grants to students.

## HEERF I

- The total amount of funds that the institution will receive under the HEERF I student portion is \$560,502
- All HEERF I funds have been distributed to students.
- The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to participate in programs under [Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended \(HEA\)](#), and therefore eligible to receive an emergency grant for HEERF I funds is 914.
- The total number of students who have received an emergency grant from HEERF I funds is 631.

## HEERF I Requirements and Procedures

For the HEERF I funds, NMJC required each student that was requesting funding fill out an online application. Within the application students were asked to identify the category(s) of expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19 they incurred. The categories were food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, childcare, other expenses.

Students were awarded a maximum of \$500 for each category selected, up to a total maximum of \$1000 for the first round of distribution. (Based on needs and funding available, students may be eligible for additional rounds of funding). All applications were screened for initial eligibility requirements as defined by the Department of Education.

The following guidance was distributed to students via the College website, email, and social media related to HEERF I funds.

New Mexico Junior College has received federal funding from the CARES Act, which is intended to help with student expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19. These funds are intended to assist students in these areas:

- Food
- Housing
- Course Materials
- Technology
- Health Care
- Childcare Expenses
- Other Expenses (Expenses that do not fit any of the above)

### Application for Funds

In order to access these funds, you must complete [this application](#). NMJC will review your application and process your request as soon as possible. After your application is received, you will be contacted within 7 days at your NMJC email address to either notify you of your application approval/denial or ask for more information.

## HEERF II

- The total amount of funds that the institution will receive under the HEERF II student portion is \$560,502.
- All HEERF II funds, have been distributed to students.
- The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive an emergency grant for HEERF II funds is 1584.
- The total number of students to date who have received an emergency grant from HEERF II funds is 472.

## HEERF II Requirements and Procedures

In an attempt to prioritize need, NMJC developed a tiered system to distribute funds.

**Tier 1** - Spring 2021 Pell eligible students received a \$1,000 distribution, no application necessary.

**Tier 2** – Spring 2021 students that have submitted a FAFSA, have an Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) of \$100 or less, and were not included in Tier 1 distributions received a \$1,000 distribution, no application necessary.

**Tier 3** - The remaining CRRSA funds are available for students who have additional expenses or incurred hardships because of COVID-19. Students may submit a request for these emergency funds by completing the application located below. Students who receive the Tier 1 or Tier 2 distributions are eligible to apply for Tier 3 funds.

These emergency grants may be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance, and for costs that have arisen due to coronavirus such as food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, childcare, other expenses.

NOTE: Students who received HEERF I funds are eligible to apply for HEERF II.

Guidance was distributed to students via the College website, email, and social media related to HEERF II funds.

### **HEERF III**

- The total amount of funds that the institution will receive under the HEERF III student portion is \$ 2,086,095
- Of the HEERF III funds, the total amount that has been distributed to students as of March 31, 2022 is \$2,086,095
- The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive an emergency grant for HEERF III funds is 4399.
- The total number of students to date who have received an emergency grant from HEERF III funds is 1012.

### **HEERF III Requirements and Procedures**

Unlike the CARES Act, which funded the first emergency grants to students in 2020, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA), and the American Rescue Plan of 2021 (ACT) require that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. However, students do not need to be Pell recipients or eligible for Pell grants to be identified as having exceptional need. Individuals are eligible for emergency financial aid grants from the HEERF, regardless of whether they completed a FAFSA or are eligible for Title IV.

The NMJC application process asks students to identify and attest to their need as a result of the coronavirus in order to prioritize awards. Additionally, to meet this requirement, NMJC has developed a tiered system to distribute the emergency grants to students while funding is available.

**Tier 1** - Fall 2021 Pell eligible students received a \$1,500 distribution, no application necessary.

**Tier 2** – Fall 2021 students that have submitted a FAFSA, have an Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) of \$100 or less, and were not included in Tier 1 distributions received a \$1,500 distribution, no application necessary.

**Tier 3** - The remaining funds are available for students who are or were enrolled at NMJC on or after the date of the declaration of the national emergency due to the coronavirus (March 13, 2020). Students may submit a request for these emergency funds by completing an application.

Students who receive the Tier 1 or Tier 2 distributions are eligible to apply for Tier 3 funds.

Emergency financial aid grants may be used by students for any component of their cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care. Students determine how they may use their emergency financial aid grant within the allowable uses.

### **Criteria**

Students are eligible for ACT HEERF III funding if they have been enrolled at NMJC at any point since March 13, 2020.

The following guidance was distributed to students via the College website, email, and social media related to HEERF III funds:

These emergency grants may be used for any additional costs or un-met needs the student or their family have faced as a result of the coronavirus national health emergency such as:

- tuition, course fees, course materials
- technology
- food
- housing
- health care (including mental health care)
- child care
- other expenses that do not fit in above categories or that are exceptional, such as loss or reduction of employment.

#### Application for Funds

In order to access the Tier 3 funds, you must complete this application. NMJC will review your application and you will be contacted within 7 days at your **NMJC email address** notifying you of your application approval / denial or asking for additional information.

NOTE: Students who received HEERF I & II funds are eligible to apply for HEERF III.