

Grand Rapids Community College
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III

Fourth Quarter Report for the time period of October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

January 5, 2022

Acknowledgments of Signed Certification and Agreement Forms

Following the March 11, 2021, passage of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) received notice on May 12, 2021, that it would receive an additional \$13,057,485 in Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III) for the purpose of providing financial awards to students affected by the COVID pandemic.

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) provided a Grant Award notification to GRCC on May 12, 2021.

On April 13, 2020, Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Certification and Agreement. An unsigned copy is available for review at the Office of Postsecondary Education website. ED approved the signed agreement on April 22, 2020. ED did not require additional certifications for subsequent HEERF funding.

GRCC has received a total of \$49,336,952 in HEERF funding through the CARES Act, CRRSAA, ARP legislation, and Strengthening Institutions. A minimum of \$19,863,657 was designated for student grants. As of December 31, 2021, GRCC has disbursed \$18,855,086 of these funds to students. The remaining fund balance is \$1,008,571.

Total HEERF funding for student grants

The HEERF funding as established by the three federal funding laws for student grants is as follows:

HEERF I (CARES Act)	\$3,403,086
HEERF II (CRRSAA)	\$3,403,086
HEERF III (ARP: American Rescue Plan)	\$13,057,485
Total available for student grants	\$19,863,657

Total HEERF awarded to students

As of March 31, 2022, GRCC has disbursed \$19,325,086 in HEERF funding to students.

HEERF I	\$3,403,086
HEERF II	\$3,403,086
HEERF III	\$12,048,914
Total HEERF awarded to students	\$18,855,086

Number of students

During the current quarter of October 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, no HEERF III funds were disbursed to students.

Determination of eligible students/Plans to award remaining funds

GRCC assembled a taskforce to develop recommendations for disbursing the remaining funds to students. The taskforce developed recommendations regarding identifying students and ensuring that students meet the definition of exceptional need, within the guidelines stipulated by the U.S. Department of Education related to providing HEERF funds to students. The taskforce recommended that GRCC award HEERF funds to students who were enrolled as dual enrolled, concurrently enrolled, or middle college students on or after March 13, 2020, and had received no prior HEERF funding from GRCC. The proposal also includes continued awarding to students in workforce training programs who meet the definition of exceptional need. GRCC Executive Leadership is considering the proposal and intends to disburse the remaining student portion of the HEERF funds during the winter 2022 semester.

Communication

No communications have been shared with students during this quarter.

Summary

As noted above, GRCC received \$13,057,485 in Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III) for the purpose of providing financial awards to students affected by the COVID pandemic. As of the close of this current quarter, GRCC has \$1,008,571 in HEERF III funds remaining. GRCC is finalizing plans to disburse remaining funds to eligible students during the Winter 2022 semester.

Updated on April 13, 2022