



HEERF III American Rescue Plan (ARP)

Updated March 31, 2022

South Texas College has signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement on April 16, 2020. The funds received through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) are authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021. This is the third stream of funding appropriated for HEERF, which was initially established by the CARES Act, in response to coronavirus.

South Texas College received \$32 million which has been made available for Emergency Aid to assist students with unexpected expenses as a result to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recipient's Funding Certification & Agreement - Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act	Download
Total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.	\$37,592,196
Total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30 day Report)	\$37,585,396
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 and thus	17,000

eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act	
Total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act	20,158

Methods

The method to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants was based on regulations in Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021. Funding for the ARP is to continue support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ARP Guidance was published by the US Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education on May 11, 2021 online at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arp.html>. The Frequently Asked Questions document posted by the Office of Postsecondary Education states in Answer #7 that “states any student that is or was enrolled (as defined in [34 CFR § 600.2](#))” on or after March 13, 2020, the date of declaration of the national emergency due to the coronavirus ([85 FR 15337](#)). In Answer #8 it states that all students including “citizens, permanent residents, refugees, asylum seekers, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) recipients, other DREAMers, and similar undocumented students.) Answer #8 also states that “International students may also receive HEERF.”

The method to determine how much each student would receive considered the allocation formula grant funds received by South Texas College for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, plans to use no less

than fifty percent of the funds received to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's costs of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care), and an estimated number of students who would meet the eligibility guidelines provided by the US Department of Education: Office of Postsecondary Education. South Texas College determined the amount of each individual emergency financial aid grant consistent with all applicable laws including non-discrimination laws, has collected information from student applicants, and determined that the initial distribution amount for eligible Spring 2021 students would be \$1,700.

Instructions

Please view supporting documents of instruction, direction, and guidance STC provided to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants:

- [Emergency Grant Application](#)
- [CARES Email Message](#)
 - **Hi <FIRST NAME>. Do you need help to pay for classes this Fall at STC? We have \$1,700 available that you can use to pay your balance or sent to you directly. Don't miss this opportunity for extra money to help you through the semester. Would you like the link to apply?**
- [CARES Informational Webpage](#)