HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF ACT (HEERF)

The following information is provided to comply with the Department of Education's Higher Education Relief Act (HEERF) Reporting requirements. This report is as of April 6, 2022 and includes the 4th quarter ending March 31, 2022.

 An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

The University of Illinois Springfield signed and submitted the Funding Certification and Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education on April 15, 2020. The University agrees to use these funds to provide emergency financial aid grants to students. A supplemental GAN was received from the US Department of Education on February 26, 2021 that included the HEERF II funds. Another supplemental GAN was received from the US Department of Education on June 8, 2021 that included HEERF III funds.

2. The 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 under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

\$865,944 – Cares Act funds

\$865,944 - HEERF II funds

\$3,008,204 - HEERF III funds

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the initial report and every calendar quarter thereafter).

\$865,944 – All CARES Act funds have been fully expended

\$865,944 – All HEERF II funds have been fully expended

\$0 in HEERF III funds were distributed when the third quarter 2021 (July 1, 2021-September 30, 2021) report of 2021 was submitted

\$2,583,322.34 in HEERF III funds were distributed during the fourth quarter 2021 (October 1, 2021-December 31, 2021) when the report was submitted

\$413,500 - in HEERF III funds were distributed during the first quarter of 2022 (January 1, 2022-March 30, 2022)

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution that are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

3944 (UIS Enrollment Headcount Fall 2021)

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.
 1092 (Cares Act & HEERF II funds)

HEERF III student grant funds:

0 Students received HEERF III funds as of September 30, 2021. (Q3 2021) 1,285 Students received HEERF III funds as of December 30, 2021. (Q4 2021) 335 Students received HEERF III funds as of March 30, 2022. (Q1 2022)

It is possible for a student to receive an emergency grant in the 4th quarter of 2021 and the first quarter of 2022.

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

Spring 2021 HEERF II emergency grant funds were awarded to undergraduate students who met the following requirements:

- a. Enrolled Spring 2021
- b. FAFSA on file with an EFC <\$5,711 as of March 8, 2021 (Pell Eligible)
- c. Citizenship or eligible non-citizen status has been confirmed through the FAFSA application process we also allowed for international as they were added as eligible.
- d. Award amounts will range based on EFC and may be supplemented by institutional funds based on funding availability
- e. EFC 0-5,711 (Pell eligible) Any remaining balance on Tuition if student approved and then \$1000 per student
- f. Eligibility of emergency grant funds for international, graduate and professional students was determined through an application process managed by the Graduate College. Award amounts for graduate and professional students were \$1000 until funding was expended. This was done on a first come first serve basis.

Fall 2021 HEERF III emergency grant funds were awarded to undergraduate students who met the following requirements:

- a. Enrolled in the Fall 2021 semester beyond the academic census date in an undergraduate program
- b. FAFSA on file with UIS as of 11/17/2021 with an EFC <\$9,000 Award amounts for fall 2021 range based on EFC.
 - EFC 0-5,846 (Pell eligible) \$2,000
 - EFC 5,847-9,000 \$1,500 (includes RISE applicants)
 - Enrolled in the Spring 2021 semester and received Federal Pell Grant, but did not receive a student grant during the HEERF II awarding \$1,000

Spring 2022 HEERF III emergency grant funds were awarded to undergraduate students who met the following requirements:

a. Enrolled in the **Spring 2022** semester in an undergraduate program:

- FAFSA on file with UIS as of 3/21/2022 with an EFC <\$9,000.
- This group did not receive a HEERF III grant in the Fall 2021.
- Students had to be enrolled as of the cut-off date on 3/21/22.
- Award amounts for Spring 2022 range based on EFC:
 - EFC 0-5,846 (Pell eligible) \$2,000
 - EFC 5,847-9,000 (includes RISE applicants) \$1,500

b. Enrolled in the **Spring 2022** semester in an undergraduate program:

- FAFSA on file with UIS as of 3/21/22 with an EFC of 9,001-20,000
- Students had to be enrolled as of the cut-off date on 3/21/22.
- Award amounts for this group based on enrollment status (full-time/part-time) and EFC:

 EFC 9,001-14,999 AND at least part-time status of 6 credits or more \$1,000
 EFC 15,000-20,000 AND enrolled full-time status of 12 credits or more \$500
- 7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Fall 2021: Students were notified via email on November 18, 2021, if they are eligible for a HEERF III Emergency Grant and that the funds are forthcoming. Students who wish to have the funds applied directly to their student account at the university were given an option to elect to do so by November 24, 2021. After this time, the funds will be disbursed through the University Bursar, either directly to students or to their account, if they elected.

Spring 2022: Students were notified via email on March 24, 2022, if they are eligible for a HEERF III Emergency Grant and that the funds are forthcoming. Students who wish to have the funds applied directly to their student account at the university were given an option to elect to do so by March 28, 2022. After this time, the funds were disbursed through the University Bursar, either directly to students or to their account, if they elected.

Student email sample:

Dear Student,

Congratulations, you are eligible for an Emergency Grant of \$x,xxx.xx under the American Rescue Plan (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, or HEERF III).

You can use it to cover any expenses of your choice that may have resulted due to the impact of COVID-19. The funds will be made available to you via direct deposit or paper check. This grant will not be applied by the University towards any outstanding balance you may owe UIS, nor will it decrease any payments owed against your payment plan or the amount due. The University encourages you to enroll

in <u>Direct Deposit</u> if you haven't already as it is the safest and fastest way to receive your funds. If you don't plan to enroll in direct deposit, ensure your mailing address on file with the University is accurate.

However, you do have the option of applying the grant funds towards your student account at UIS. If you would like to opt-in and have these grant funds applied to your account, please complete this <u>form</u> and submit **by XX/XX/XXXX**. Any remaining grant funds beyond your account balance **will** be refunded to you. **Choosing this option does not in any way impact your eligibility or the amount of emergency grant you will be awarded.**

For questions, please contact the Office of Financial Assistance at <u>finaid@uis.edu</u> or 217.206.6724.