

CRRSA Act Student Emergency Grants Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF)

Quarterly Report Created on June 30, 2021 (Final Report)



This document provides the necessary information to comply with Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act" or the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281.

The information includes all HEERF Student Grant Funds, including funds provided through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act.

Certification and Agreement

On April 13, 2020 Baker College signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement document under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Baker College intends to use all student grant funds received to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

- The CRRSA Act Student Grant funds became available to Baker College on January 17, 2021, with a total amount allocated for student grants of \$2,877,191.

Eligible Students

The eligibility requirements for students have been updated multiple times since the HEERF funds were initially established. Under the most recent guidance, all students who attended on or after March 13, 2020 could be eligible for HEERF funds. Based on this guidance, approximately 10,015 students are eligible for HEERF funds (this figure includes all students who attended Baker College between March 13, 2020 and June 30, 2021).

Funds Distributed

As of June 30, 2021, Baker College has distributed a total of \$10,854,846 in HEERF Student Grant Funds to a total of 5,730 students.

CRRSA Act Funds Distributed: \$2,877,191 has been distributed to students. In addition, Baker College has distributed \$127,145 to students from the Institutional Grant portion of the CRRSA Act.

Methodology to Determine Who Receives Funds

While Baker College understands that all students have been impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic, these federal funds contain very specific eligibility requirements. The methodology utilized for each of the funds varied based on the federal requirements established at the time the funds became available.

CRRSA Act Methodology: Qualified students must meet all of the following (this list is not all-inclusive):

- Registered in at least one course for fall 2020 or spring 2021 semesters
- Enrolled in an eligible certificate or degree program (not in secondary school)
- A US citizen or eligible non-citizen with a valid social security number
- Completed the Emergency Relief Funds Application to document exceptional need

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Methodology to Determine Grant Amounts

The methodology utilized for each of the funds varied based on the federal requirements established at the time the funds became available.

CRRSA Act Methodology: The type of assistance was determined based on the student's responses listed on the Federal Emergency Relief Funds Application. The maximum amounts were determined based on the living allowance figures used to calculate the cost of attendance for one semester; the amount awarded to students was prorated based on the student's need level utilizing the EFC calculated from the FAFSA application.

Students who requested emergency assistance with tuition expenses (costs they are unable to pay due to Coronavirus) were also awarded funds to help pay their outstanding charges.

The maximum living allowance figures for CRRSA Act funds are:

- Technology assistance: \$500
- Equipment purchase: up to \$500
- Living allowance: up to \$1100
- Housing expenses: up to \$1200
- Child care: up to \$1200
- Transportation: up to \$500
- Medical expenses: up to \$1000

Methodology to Determine Who Receives Funds

Student notifications and instructions varied based on the timeline of the available funds. Email was the primary source of communication used in all cases.

CRRSA Act Notification and Instructions: On January 7, 2021 an email and follow-up text message was sent to all potentially eligible students (students who had attended on or after March 13, 2020). The email included instructions for completing the application for emergency relief funds and clarified the eligibility changes under this new grant. The email message also included information about re-evaluation (professional judgment) in the event that the student was unemployed (or had reduced income) as a result of Coronavirus.

Students that applied for and qualified for CRRSA Act funds with an outstanding balance were sent a follow-up email in February with a link to an authorization form to determine if the student wanted their emergency funds to be applied toward their outstanding balance. The email clearly stated that the authorization was voluntary and would not impact their total award.

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Future Distribution

CRRSA Act funds have been fully disbursed to students.

*Questions regarding Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students should be directed to:
financialaid@baker.edu*