



CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund HEERF II, and III Report (student) January 2022 – March 2022

(submitted to post on website by April 7, 2022)

Under the CRRSAA and ARP (a) (1) programs, student portion funds must be used to provide financial aid grants to students. The CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. However, students do not need to be only Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants. In addition, the CRRSAA explicitly provides that financial aid grants to students may be provided to students exclusively enrolled in distance education.

Students cannot apply for assistance directly from the U.S. Department of Education but should contact their institutions for further information and guidance. Institutions have the responsibility of determining how grants will be distributed to students, how the amount of each student grant is calculated, and the development of any instructions or directions that are provided to students about the grant.

In January, the initial disbursement of funds consisted of the following structure and moved to provide support for students who expressed exceptional need:

Pell Dependent students: \$800

Pell Independent students: \$1,500

Pell Independent with dependents: \$2,500

The Certification and Agreements for the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) funds provide that each institution applying for HEERF funds must promptly and timely provide a detailed accounting of the use and expenditure of the funds in such a manner and with frequency as required by the Secretary. Each participating institution (of HEERF) must post information on the institution's primary website, as an initial report under the CRRSAA and ARP (a) (1) and (a)(4) programs.

(1) An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used the applicable amount of funds designated under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

"Palo Alto College signed and returned the Certification and Agreement to the U.S. Department of Education on June 18, 2020 and 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 institutions Grant Award Notification of funds designated under CRRSAA and ARP (PDF)

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210-486-3125

(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.

College	Total Amount Received
Palo Alto College	\$4,493,974.00

(3) The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA and ARP 18004 (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs as of the date of submission.

College	Timeframe	Fund Code	Total Amount Disbursed
Palo Alto College	01/01/2022 – 03/31/2022	HCRSA3, HARPR3 & HARPS3	\$4,493,974.00

(4) The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP 18004(a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

College	Timeframe	# of Students
Palo Alto College	Spring 2022 03/31/2022	7,254

(5) The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA and ARP 18004(a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

College	Timeframe	Fund Code	# of Students Paid
Palo Alto College	01/01/2022 – 03/31/2022	HCRSA3, HARPR3 & HARPS3	2,326

314(a)(1)- Student Figures

(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).

College	Timeframe	Fund Code	Total Amount Disbursed
Palo Alto College	N/A	N/A	N/A

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(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.

College	Timeframe	Fund Code	Total Amount Disbursed
Palo Alto College	N/A	N/A	N/A

(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

College	Timeframe	Fund Code	Total Amount Disbursed
Palo Alto College	N/A	N/A	N/A

Institutional Figures

College	Timeframe	Fund Code	Total Amount Disbursed
Palo Alto College	01/01/2022 – 03/31/2022	HCRS13	\$1,600.00

(6) The methods 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.

Unlike the CARES Act, the CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize student with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. However, students do not need to be only Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants. In addition, the CRRSAA explicitly provides that financial aid grants tot student may be provided to students exclusively enrolled in distance education.

Based on the guidance and criteria provided by the US Department of Education, full or part-time students can apply. This includes those enrolled in academic courses, credit or no-credit bearing courses, dual enrollment courses, or continuing education courses.

Palo Alto College's students apply through the Student Financial Aid Office which then evaluates their eligibility and other applicable CARE Act criteria. An electronic application is being used for students to request funds. On the application, students request funds and also sign a certification stating funds are for expenses as a result of a disruption on their education due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The instructions how to apply are afforded to students through various channels of communication. Once the application is submitted, Financial Aid staff will process applications from the queue by date received.

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ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT
Palo Alto College



210-486-3125

How to Apply for Federal Emergency Aid Funds:

- Log into the ACES portal using your Username and Password
- Select the 'Student' option from the sidebar menu
- Select the 'Web Services' link
- Select the 'Financial Aid' tab
- Click on 'Federal Emergency Assistance Application' from the list of options
- This will open a DocuSign page.
- Enter your 'Name' and 'Email' in the required fields and click 'Begin Signing'.
- This will initiate an email to be sent to the address you entered. The email will contain the link to the application.

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/updatedheerfiia4crsaafaqs.pdf>

(7) Information to Students on Emergency Financial Aid Grants, instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants is found on our website at <https://www.alamo.edu/studentemergencyaid/>