

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Report – CRRSAA: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II) Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

01/05/2022 - Student Aid Report

Prism Career Institute (OPE ID: 02558700) received funds under The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. In total, the CRRSAA authorizes \$81.88 billion in support for education, in addition to the \$30.75 billion expeditiously provided last spring through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136.

The institution is making the below information available for transparency purposes and in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education's ("Department") Public reporting requirements as of May 13, 2021.¹ For questions or concerns regarding this Fund Report, please contact **Eddie Alkhal**, **Director of Operations**, at <u>ealkhal@prismeducation.com</u>.

- 1. Prism Career Institute signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. Prism Career Institute will use the funds received, as stated under section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSAA, to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students.
- 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 (a)(1) programs is **\$1,214,426**.
- 3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA (a)(1) programs as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the initial report and every calendar quarter thereafter) is **\$1,213,000**.
- 4. The estimated total number of students at the institution that are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA(a)(1) programs is <u>1,761</u>.
- 5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA (a)(1) program is <u>1,061</u>.
- 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(a)(1) programs. See <u>Attachment A</u>.
- 7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the emergency financial aid grants are provided at <u>Attachment B</u>.

¹ <u>See</u>: <u>https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfreporting.html</u>

Attachment A

Eligibility and Awarding

Eligible students will meet the following requirements:

- Enrolled in the Spring 2021 Term and any student who attended on or after March 13th, 2020.
- You must demonstrate need, which is measured by your 2020-2021 FAFSA.
- \$1,200 awarded to Pell Grant eligible students.
- \$700 awarded to Non-Pell Grant eligible students or students without a 2020-2021 FAFSA completed.

Initial priority will be to all active students who are eligible for a Federal Pell Grant for the 2020-2021 academic year will be directly awarded an emergency grant followed by Non-Pell eligible students.

Students who graduated the program on or after January 1st, 2021 will be awarded an emergency grant following the same procedures above. Priority to Pell Grant students first followed by Non-Pell eligible graduates.

Prism determined by awarding to active students followed by 2021 Graduates this would ensure these group of students would receive the emergency grant which was passed into law in December 2020.

Attachment B

About the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) II

<u>Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) II</u>—part of the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA)—provides money to colleges and universities to prevent, prepare and respond to COVID-19. A portion of these funds are earmarked for distribution as emergency student grants.

Per guidance from the federal government, these grants will be distributed to our students with exceptional need, which will be identified by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Prism Career Institute has received HEERF II funding and will be distributing grants to eligible students to help cover expenses related to the cost of attendance (e.g., food, housing and utilities, health insurance, including mental health care, transportation, or child care) or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus.

• Funds from the HEERF II CRRSAA Emergency Relief Fund are not considered financial aid and do not affect a student's current or future financial aid eligibility.

Eligibility and Awarding

Eligible students will meet the following requirements:

- Enrolled in the Spring 2021 Term and any student who attended on or after March 13th, 2020.
- You must demonstrate need, which is measured by your 2020-2021 FAFSA.
- \$1,200 awarded to Pell Grant eligible students.
- \$700 awarded to Non-Pell Grant eligible students or students without a 2020-2021 FAFSA completed.

All active students who are eligible for a Federal Pell Grants for the 2020-21 academic year will be directly awarded an emergency grant first. No request form is necessary.

Our goal is to award emergency grants as quickly as possible. You will receive a notification from Prism Career Institute when the grant is ready. We are planning to distribute the checks by June 18th, 2021. Notifications will be posted in Canvas.

The HEERF II Grant will distributed via school check. The checks will be available for student pick up at your school location. The checks will not be mailed this time to avoid delays. Students must provide proof of identification to receive their check. More information will be provided when the checks are ready including who to contact and where to pick up at your campus.

Students FAQs

How do I know if I am eligible to apply?

Students must meet the following criteria to be eligible for HEERF II funding:

- Enrolled in the Spring 2021 Term or attended on or after March 13th, 2020.
- Must demonstrate financial need with preference to students with exceptional financial need. Prism determines Pell eligible students as having exceptional need.

Why is Prism Career Institute using a 2020-21 FAFSA to be considered for HEERF II funds?

- Since the HEERF II grant is based on demonstrated need, the 2020-21 FAFSA will be used to determine a student's need for the grant.
- Students who have not completed a 2020-2021 FAFSA will fall under the Non Pell Eligible Award.

Will everyone receive an emergency grant?

- Prism Career Institute can only guarantee all active students will receive an emergency grant. No Guarantee can be made to students who are no longer active as the priority will be to active students first.
- Grants will be distributed to students who demonstrate need, with priority given to those with exceptional need, until funds are exhausted.

Do I need to repay this grant?

No. An emergency grant, funded by HEERF II, does not need to be repaid. This grant does not impact or replace any financial aid you may currently receive, and it is a one-time grant.

If I receive a grant from the HEERF II Fund, is it taxable?

No. Per the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, emergency financial aid grants under HEERF II are qualified disaster relief payments and will not be taxable.

What if I have a balance due to the school?

Students are permitted to use their HEERF II Grant to pay any outstanding balance due. Prism will not prevent any eligible student from receiving their HEERF II Grant if they have a balance due. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for more details.

Students should contact the **Office of Financial Assistance** for further information.