

Federal legislation titled the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) was signed into law on December 27, 2020. Through CRRSAA, the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) allocated funds to higher education institutions to be distributed to students in the form of grants with appropriate use conditions. The information below is the reporting data for required by the US Department of Education.

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 program to provide Emergency Grants to students.

On April 17, 2020, North Hennepin Community College (NHCC) signed and returned to the US Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for the Emergency Grants to students under the HEERF I – CARES Act. Under that agreement, NHCC has distributed at least 50 percent of the HEERF I money received as emergency grant aid to students.

On January 18, 2021, NHCC received notification of a supplemental HEERF II award through CRRSAA. As a recipient of HEERF I – CARES Act funding, NHCC was not required to submit a certification agreement under CRRSAA for the HEERF II award. NHCC intends to use the applicable amount of funds designated under the CRRSAA program to provide Emergency Grants 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 program.

NHCC has received an allocation of \$1,510,713 to be distributed as emergency grant aid to students with exceptional need.

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

- \$1,510,713 as of September 30, 2021 (FINAL REPORT).
- \$1,510,713 as of June 30, 2021.
- \$1,307,960 as of April 7, 2021.

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA program.

For the spring 2021 semester, after the expanded use of funds authority under CRRSAA to include DREAM ACT and F1 VISA students, NHCC had 3,940 eligible students.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA program.

2,146 students have received an emergency grant under CRRSAA as of June 30, 2021.

1,721 students received an emergency grant under CRRSAA as of the initial disbursement on April 7, 2021.

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 program.

NHCC prioritized distributing funds to support students with exceptional financial need by allocating funds to student through the following two methods.

1. CRRSAA Direct Grant Awards

Using federal and Minnesota State guidance, NHCC identified students with exceptional need as those having completed a FAFSA with an expected family contribution (EFC) below 6,000. Students in this category that are registered for at least one or more credits spring semester 2021 received a direct grant award of \$760.

2. CRRSAA Emergency Application Grant Awards

The remaining student portion of the funds were available to students in the form of an emergency grant application. The funds can be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), child care, course materials, or technology. Students may also choose to apply the funds to a past due tuition balance.

Student eligibility requirements for a need-based CRRSAA Emergency Grant include:

- Enrollment in at least one or more credits at NHCC in the semester for which the student is requesting the grant.
- Need for assistance with expenses related to the impact of COVID-19.

Students who fall under any one of the following criteria, are not eligible for a CRRSAA Emergency Grant:

- High school students (including PSEO and concurrent enrollment)
- Employees of MN State using their tuition benefits to pay for their own classes

Eligible students can request up to \$500 in a CRRSAA emergency grant award.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

All students eligible for the Direct Grant award received an email at their NHCC email address on April 6 informing them of their eligibility. Students that had not set up their refund preference through BankMobile received another email at their NHCC email address April 7 with instructions on how to set that up.

Students who completed an application for the Emergency Grant funds were notified of their application status through the email address the student provided on their application on the date their application was reviewed.

All grant payments were released to students through the refund preference the student set up with BankMobile. If the student selected BankMobile, the grant funds were available the same day. If the student selected direct deposit to another bank account, the grant funds would have been available within approximately 2 business days.

The NHCC Accounting and Fees Office continued to reach out to students through their NHCC email if they had not yet set up their refund preference through BankMobile with instructions on how to complete that process.