

Minot State University CARES, CRRSAA, and ARP: Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds I, II & III (HEERF I, II & HEERF III) Distribution Report-March 31, 2022 FINAL REPORT

The MSU CARES Distribution Report was first published June 4, 2020. MSU exhausted all funds received under CARES by October 16, 2020, CRRSAA by June 30, 2021 and ARP by March 31, 2022. Last updated: April 1, 2022.

1. MSU signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for Students. MSU intends to use the funds designated under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and American Recovery Plan Act (ARP) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. MSU received \$637,891 from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under the CARES Act, \$637,891 under CRRSAA and \$2,455,111 under the ARP Act for a total of \$3,730,893.
3. During the first quarter ending March 31, 2022, MSU distributed \$1,224,711 in Emergency Grants to students under the ARP. No funds were distributed under CARES or CRRSAA during this period because CARES funds were completely disbursed by the end of the fourth quarter of 2020 and CRRSAA funds were completely disbursed by the end of the second quarter of 2021.
4. MSU determined that approximately 2172 students at the institution were potentially eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the ARP in spring 2022.
5. During the first quarter ending March 31, 2022, the total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 314(a)(1) of the ARP is 1350.
6. **Block Grants:** To determine which students were eligible for Block Grants under ARP, MSU identified students who completed the 2021-22 FAFSA resulting in an EFC of 22000 or less, were enrolled in a degree program, and who were enrolled at least half-time in spring 2022. Those 1035 students received an email (see below) alerting them of their eligibility for the ARP (HEERF III) grants. A funding grid based on FAFSA EFC was established to disburse ARP Block Grants to students who met these criteria. Students with a 2021-22 FAFSA EFC of 0-6300 received \$1200, EFC of 6301-10500 received \$900, 10501 to 22000 received \$700.

Emergency Grants: An Emergency Grant application was made available to students who were enrolled at least half-time in a degree program who were not eligible for the Block Grant distribution.

Students who were enrolled at least half-time in a degree program for spring 2022 who were not pre-selected for an ARP Block Grant based on FAFSA EFC in the initial spring ARP selection were given the opportunity to submit an online application for ARP funds from March 1 – March 6, 2022. The application was posted on our website: https://www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/pages/ARP_HEERFIII.shtml. All students eligible to apply for the ARP grant were sent an email on March 2, 2022 and a reminder email on March 6, 2022. Grant funds were divided among the applicants with most recipients receiving \$493. Twelve applicants with the largest outstanding balances received \$511. Due to a returned grant distribution in late March, twenty of the Emergency Grant recipients with the largest unpaid balances at that time received \$35 additional dollars.

7. **First Quarter 2022 ARP:** Eligible students (as described in #6 Block Grants) were emailed about their eligibility for an ARP Block Grant on February 28, 2022. Eligible students (as described in #6 Emergency Grant) were emailed about their eligibility to apply for an ARP Emergency Grant on March 2, 2022 and March 6, 2022. MSU also posted a notice at https://www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/pages/ARP_HEERFIII.shtml about the application for ARP Emergency Grants.

Email sent to Block Grant Recipient 2.28.22

Hello from the MSU Financial Aid Office!

Federal grant funding is available to assist students during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Minot State University has received funding through the **Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III)** authorized by the **American Recovery Plan (ARP)** to provide grants to students for emergency relief. (In 2020, similar funding was known as the CARES Act, in early 2021, funds were available through the CRRSAA Act and in fall 2021, funds were available from the ARP Act.)

You were determined to be eligible for an MSU Federal ARP Block Grant for Spring 2022 based on these criteria:

- Be a US Citizen or Eligible Noncitizen (Permanent Resident)
- Have completed the 2021-22 FAFSA and have an EFC of 22000 or less
- Be enrolled in a degree program at least half-time

Federal ARP Block Grant availability:

- Amounts will range from approximately **\$700 to \$1200** depending on FAFSA results
- Recipients will be able to view their grant funds in Campus Connection under the Financial Aid tile for 2021-22 beginning the afternoon of March 2
- You may choose to have the grant applied to outstanding charges on your fall student account by completing [this short form](#) or you can enroll in **Direct Deposit** to receive excess aid, [Direct Deposit Instructions](#)
- **Grants will be disbursed beginning on March 2.** Grants issued by check will be mailed to on-campus or HOME addresses beginning on March 2. Grants issued by Direct Deposit may take up to three business days after March 2 to appear in your account.

ACTION REQUIRED BY THE END OF THE DAY MARCH 1, 2022:

- No Application is required---you WILL receive the grant based on the criteria listed above.

- Consider opting-in to have the funds apply to your student account by completing [this short form](#) if you currently have an unpaid balance in Campus Connection. (Not required)
- Enroll in Direct Deposit in Campus Connection if you are not already enrolled: [Direct Deposit Instructions](#)
- Review and update your HOME address in Campus Connection to ensure that your check (if not enrolled in Direct Deposit) will be mailed to the correct address.
- Cash or deposit your check within 4 weeks of the date issued.
- If you are already enrolled in Direct Deposit, have an up-to-date home address in Campus Connection, and do not wish to have your grant applied to an unpaid balance in Campus Connection, no additional action is required.

We hope this assistance will allow you to continue your academic pursuits and help with any coronavirus pandemic related financial needs you might have including tuition/fees, housing, food, health care (including mental health care), child care, transportation and other related expenses.

We expect this grant disbursement to be the FINAL COVID-19 federal emergency grant for Minot State students, barring any additional Congressional actions.

For more information, please visit: [Federal American Recovery Plan HEERF III website](#).

Contact the Financial Aid Office if you have any questions at 701-858-3375 or financialaid@minotstateu.edu.

Email sent to Emergency Grant Potential Applicants 3.2.22

Greetings from the Minot State Financial Aid Office!

You are receiving this email because Minot State University has received funding through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) authorized by the American Recovery Plan (ARP) to provide **emergency grants** to students experiencing financial hardships due to the coronavirus pandemic. High need students, as determined by FAFSA results, have been previously prioritized for receipt of the funds in the form of ARP Block Grants which will be disbursed March 2.

Additional funds are now available to students who:

1. **Are enrolled at least half-time in a degree program**
2. **Were not eligible for an ARP Block Grant**
3. **Have emergency needs related to the coronavirus pandemic**

ACTION REQUIRED BY THE END OF THE DAY MARCH 6, 2022:

- **If you meet the criteria listed above, submit [an application for an ARP Emergency Grant](#).** (You must be logged into your NDUS account to access the form. If you are logged in using a different Microsoft account, log off, then log back in using your NDUS login.)
- Enroll in Direct Deposit in Campus Connection if you are not already enrolled: [Direct Deposit Instructions](#)
- Review and update your HOME address in Campus Connection to ensure that your check (if not enrolled in Direct Deposit) or Direct Deposit notification will be mailed to the correct address
- Cash or deposit your check within 4 weeks of the date issued

ARP Emergency grants are expected to range from \$200 to \$500 and will be disbursed beginning on the afternoon of March 7. If you owe a balance to Minot State, you may “opt in” on the application form to have the grant applied to your spring balance on CC. The application is available [here](#). Grants issued by check will be mailed to on-campus or HOME addresses beginning on March 7. Grants issued by Direct Deposit may take up to three business days after March 7 to appear in your account.

We hope this assistance will allow you to continue your academic pursuits and help with any coronavirus pandemic related financial needs you might have including tuition/fees, housing, food, health care (including mental health care), childcare, transportation, and other related expenses.

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