



Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Report (HEERF): Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students CRRSAA Galveston College Quarterly Report – March 31, 2021

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. Institutions that previously were awarded CARES ACT funding were automatically awarded aid under CRRSAA. The drawdown of the available funding within G5 was an indication of acceptance of the award.

- 1. An acknowledgment 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 (a)(1) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.**

Galveston College signed and returned the Certification and Agreement form and assures that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than the required amount of funds received to provide HEERF 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 (a)(1) programs.**

CRRSAA requires that an institution receiving funding under section 314(a)(1) provide the “same amount” in financial aid grants to students from the new CRRSAA funds that it was required or which it would have been required to provide under its original CARES Act Student Aid Portion award. The student portion of the CARES Act funding was \$606,113.00.

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

As of March 31, 2021, Galveston College has distributed HEERF II CRRSAA funds in the amount of \$454,200.00 in direct payments to enrolled students.

- 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 (a)(1) programs.**

As of March 31, 2021, Galveston College has 2033 students eligible to apply for HEERF II CRRSAA funds.

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

As of March 31, 2021, Galveston College has distributed HEERF II CRRSAA funds to 493 unduplicated students.

- 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.**

The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive HEERF grants and how much they would receive. Unlike the CARES Act, 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.

The HEERF Emergency Fund Taskforce is comprised of three voting members and one ex-officio. The task force met on April 14, 2020, to determine the student application method, method of student notifications, eligibility amounts, and review process.

Emergency Funding Process:

- 1) Students must apply for funds through a formal application process (see Attachment A)
- 2) Text messages and emails were sent out to the enrolled population of students on beginning February 1, 2021. (see Attachment B)
- 3) The application review may take 2-5 days to complete. Once approved by the Taskforce, the student is mailed a check. Checks are processed and mailed twice a week in accordance with the College's current business processes.
- 4) Maximum Amounts were determined by the Taskforce. Students were surveyed for a "Requested Amount."
- 5) The student receives an email with approval or denial of funds. Denial emails vary depending on the reason. (see Attachment C)

Emergency Funding Scale	
Enrollment	Maximum
Full-Time (12+ Hours)	\$1200
Three-Quarter Time (9-11 hours)	\$900
Half-Time (6-8 hours)	\$600
Less Than Half Time (1-5 hours)	\$600

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

Instructions, directions, and guidance were provided to students via text, email, and outlined on the application (outlined in the following attachments).

An email, cares@gc.edu, was created for students to direct their questions or concerns. The email is closely monitored and responded with 2 days.

Attachment A



CRRSAA Act Emergency Fund Application (HEERF II)

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) grant is made possible by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) signed into law on December 27, 2020. These funds are limited and do not need to be repaid. The funds may 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) or child care. The grant funds will give priority to students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. However, students do not need to be Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants in order to receive a financial aid grant.

All applications will be reviewed for eligibility and disbursed to students by check to the address on file with Admissions. Please check your address and make any changes on your Whitecaps Portal.

All status updates, request for more information, required forms, documents, offer notices, disbursement information, etc. will be sent to your Whitecaps email only. Make sure that you currently have access to your Whitecaps email from this point forward. You can contact the IT Service Desk at helpdesk@gc.edu or 409-944-1352 for assistance.

Eligibility Requirements:

Funding under the HEERF grant is available to ALL enrolled students who have Emergency Costs incurred due to coronavirus. Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is strongly encouraged [Apply for Aid Here](#)

Eligible students must be:

- Enrolled as a student at Galveston College

Maximum award amounts are based on enrollment at time of application.

Summer 2021 Enrollment

Full Time (12 or more hours) \$1200

Three Quarter Time (9-11 hours) \$900

Half Time or below (1-8 hours) \$600

Questions or concerns directly related to the CRRSAA Act funds or the application can be directed to cares@gc.edu
You must include your full name and Galveston College student ID number.
Application review could take 2-5 days. Once approved, your check will be mailed within 5 business days. (All information required unless noted.)

Section I Demographics

First Name *

Last Name *

GC Student ID *

Date of Birth *

MM	▼ /
DD	▼ /
YYYY	▼

GC Email Address *


<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email	Confirm Email

Personal Email address *


Mailing address *

<input type="text"/>	
Street Number and Name	
Address Line 1	
<input type="text"/>	
Apt Number or Unit Number	
Address Line 2	
<input type="text"/>	Alabama
City	State
<input type="text"/>	
Zip Code	

Phone Number *

 ▾	<input type="text" value="(201) 555-0123"/>
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2nd Phone Number (Optional)

 ▾	<input type="text" value="(201) 555-0123"/>
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Section II

Program of Study *

- Select a Program of Study -



Expected graduation or transfer date *

Are you currently employed? *

Yes

No

If no, are you unemployed due to COVID-19? *

Yes

No

Does this current situation put you at risk of withdrawing, failing or not attending classes? *

Yes

No

Are the expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to Coronavirus (COVID-19)? *

- Tuition
- Food
- Housing
- Course Materials
- Technology
- Health Care, including Mental Health Care
- Child Care Expenses

Please check the related expenses you have or will incur.

Please describe the Emergency Costs that have occurred due to Coronavirus, such as: tuition; food; housing; health care (including mental health); childcare. *

0 of 150 max words.


Amount you are requesting?

- Choose One -



Section III

Affidavit of Truth Statement and Release of Information: The information provided on this form is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and true. I understand that by applying for the Student Emergency Fund, I authorize program staff to obtain and share data pertinent to my participation from other campus offices and/or Galveston College. I understand that all information will be protected as confidential. I understand that I am NOT eligible to receive services until the application process is complete. Your typed name in the box below serves as your signature. By submitting this emergency grant request, I acknowledge and give consent for data to be shared with the Department of Education, or their representatives, as part of the CRRSAA Act requirements. I understand that my information will not be sold for any purpose and will not be distributed to other parties. Examples of data shared include, but are not limited to: student name and ID, enrollment status, annual income, EFC, emergency request amount, name, etc. I authorize Galveston College to provide all information in regards to the status of this application via Whitecaps email only. Your signed name in the box below serves as your signature.



Submit

Attachment B

Meghann N Nash

From: cares@gc.edu
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 8:59 AM
To: Meghann N Nash
Subject: CRRSAA Emergency Fund Status Update Spring 2021

Dear Meghann Nash,

You have been approved for the CRRSAA Emergency Fund for the Spring 2021. You can verify your fund award amount online on the Whitecaps portal (Financial Aid Offer Letter 2020-2021).

The funds you have been awarded are a direct payment to students. The funds will be sent via check to the address you have on file in the Whitecaps portal.

Questions or concerns directly related to the CRRSAA Emergency Funds or the application can be sent to cares@gc.edu. You must include your full name and Galveston College student ID number.

2021-2022 Financial Aid

It is time to complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2021-2022 academic year, beginning October 1, 2020. The application is available online or on your mobile device at <https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fstudentaid.gov%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cmnash%40gc.edu%7Cd511dd8d68984f9e569d08d8cb78f9a2%7C3e4a6cf9a463481baba73e23600e009e%7C1%7C0%7C637483067752407783%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVC16Mn0%3D%7C1000&sd=haNgB43Wf8lt2x%2FzcAeuQIwYUv1rwOFQG8ia7ZTzn4%3D&reserved=0>

Sincerely,

Galveston College

Example

Attachment C

Meghann N Nash

From: cares@gc.edu <cares@gc.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 8:38 AM
To:
Subject: CRRSAA Emergency Fund Status Update Spring 2021

Dear ,

You have been approved for the CRRSAA Emergency Fund for the Spring 2021. You can verify your fund award amount online on the Whitecaps portal (Financial Aid Offer Letter 2020-2021).

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Sincerely,

Galveston College