

## Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Required Reporting

Document date: April 8, 2022

(Note: Reporting components were previously posted to the University at Buffalo Financial Aid Website in accordance with the Department of Education deadlines. This PDF report has been compiled as of the Document Date above per guidance provided by the Department of Education in January 2022. No changes were made to prior reports).

### ARP Act (HEERF III)

The University at Buffalo received Student Aid funding under the section 2003(7) of the ARP. This program, with some changes, provides supplemental funds to the CARES Act section 18004(a)(1) program.

The University at Buffalo signed and returned to the Education Department a Certification and Agreement as required under the CARES Act section 18004(a)(1) program. We acknowledge that by drawing down the ARP funds, our institution agrees to be bound by the conditions set forth in the ARP Supplemental Agreement including using 100 percent of these funds to provide emergency aid grants to students.

The University at Buffalo has received or will receive \$31,743,000 from the Department of Education pursuant to the Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the ARP.

The University at Buffalo has determined 30,380 students at the institution are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. Distribution of emergency grants allocated under the ARP will begin in October 2021.

### Required Reporting

#### Quarterly Report (September 30, 2021)

- The University at Buffalo had not received HEERF III funds as of the September 30, 2021 reporting date.

#### Quarterly Report (December 31, 2021)

- The University at Buffalo has distributed \$12,605,540.00 to students under section 2003(7) of the ARP Act as of December 31, 2021.



- 12,984 (unduplicated) students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under section 2003(7) of the ARP Act as of December 31, 2021.
- Since our prior reporting date of September 30, 2021 through December 31, 12,984 students received a HEERF Grant totaling \$12,605,540.00.

*Reported disbursements may include redistributions of unclaimed emergency grants previously reported and/or additional funds granted to prior recipients.*

#### Quarterly Report (March 31, 2022)

- The University at Buffalo has distributed \$30,073,901.00 to students under section 2003(7) of the ARP Act as of March 31, 2022.
- 14,515 (unduplicated) students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under section 2003(7) of the ARP Act as of March 31, 2022.
- Since our prior reporting date of December 31, 2021 through March 31, 2022, 12,467 students received a HEERF Grant totaling \$17,468,361.00

*Reported disbursements may include redistributions of unclaimed emergency grants previously reported and/or additional funds granted to prior recipients.*

#### Grant Distribution Methodology

Title IV eligibility was previously removed as a requirement for HEERF funding under the CRRSA Act. However, funding was limited to U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

On May 14, 2021, the Department of Education released a final rule allowing all enrolled students to be considered for HEERF funding, regardless of citizenship status.

Funding will be prioritized to students with exceptional need.

The University at Buffalo auto-offered HEERF III grants to students identified as high-need based on an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$14,615 or less based on information provided in the FAFSA or participation in a high-need program.

Auto-offered students had the opportunity to accept, reduce or decline funds. Students were invited to apply for additional funding if the expenses they incurred due to COVID-19 exceeded the grant they were offered.

An application for funding was made available for potentially eligible students who were not automatically offered a HEERF III grant. Applications and supporting documentation are carefully



reviewed by the university. Eligibility guidelines are available under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) section of UB's [Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund \(HEERF\) Grant, Emergency Financial Aid Assistance and COVID-19 FAQ webpage](#). The application was made available through the [UB Scholarship Portal](#).

Application dates and deadlines:

- Fall 2021: Application opened on Oct. 14, 2021. Deadline to apply was Dec. 10, 2021.
- Spring 2022: Application opened on March 16, 2022. Deadline to apply was April 1, 2022.

### Instructions and Guidance Provided to Students

Students who were automatically offered a HEERF III grant received an email notifying them of the grant availability with instructions to accept, reduce or decline the funding. Students were also instructed to complete a payment authorization form specifying if they would like HEERF funding to be applied to their UB Student Account, paid directly to them or a combination of both. Students who opted to have the grant applied towards university charges received 'refunds' if the HEERF grant exceeded charges.

Application information for HEERF III funds was added to the [Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund \(HEERF\) Grant, Emergency Financial Aid Assistance and COVID-19 FAQ webpage](#) and UB Scholarship Portal. Additional information on how to apply for HEERF funds was added to the Student Accounts eBill notifications and UB's [Emergency Funds webpage](#).

Information regarding HEERF grants was made available on UB's Financial Aid website ([financialaid.buffalo.edu](http://financialaid.buffalo.edu)). Several other university webpages added the availability of HEERF funding and linked to the Financial Aid page for more information. Webpages included but were not limited to:

- 1Capen - <https://www.buffalo.edu/1capen.htmlresources.html>
- Student Life Emergency Funds - <https://www.buffalo.edu/studentlife/help/emergency/emergency-funds.html>
- Student Resources - <http://www.buffalo.edu/grad/succeed/current-students.personal-support.html>
- Various academic department webpages

Information regarding availability of funds and contact information was also included on student billing statements issued by the Student Accounts Office.