

CRRSAA and ARP Reporting: Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

July 12, 2021

Introduction

Institutions who received HEERF I grant funds under the CARES Act were not required to submit an application for the HEERF II or HEERF III grants. HEERF II and HEERF III funding was authorized under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan Act, 2021, respectively. Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College ("A-B Tech") is required to provide regular reporting to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) on the use of funds authorized by these acts.

Acknowledgment of Funding and Certification

A-B Tech acknowledges that the specified funding amounts provided under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs will be used to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Award Information

The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department of Education under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs as of the date of the submission (i.e., ever calendar quarter): \$8,323,935

Student Eligibility Determination

Spring Semester 2021

The eligibility used for the Spring Semester of 2021 was applied to both the residual CARES funds as well as the CRRSAA funds. The total number of A-B Tech students that were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act and under Section 314(a)(1), was determined by the A-B Tech Financial Aid Office to be 4,587. This was based on the number of students who meet the eligibility requirements, which were as follows:

- Enrolled in curriculum courses on April 17, 2021; or
- Enrolled in continuing education courses starting on or after January 1, 2021 and ending on or before May 15, 2021, as of April 17, 2021.

Distribution Methodology

Spring Semester 2021

Awards were granted in three ways:

- \$610 went to 1480 students who were Pell-eligible;
- \$305 went to 2518 students who were not Pell-eligible and enrolled in curriculum courses;
- \$300 went to 604 students who were enrolled in continuing education courses;

Funds were distributed through BankMobile, the college's third-party financial aid processor, since most of the eligible students had previously selected a payment method through BankMobile. BankMobile would direct the funds to the personal bank account that the student had previously designated or issued a check, according to the student's preference. The funds were disbursed to BankMobile beginning May 4, 2021. As there was \$7,624 of CARES funds remaining, individual students were not specifically identified as recipients of CARES funding versus CRRSAA funding in the Spring Semester of 2021.

Funds Distributed to Date

The total amount of CRRSAA and ARP funds that were disbursed to BankMobile for distribution to students beginning May 4, 2021 was \$1,847,490. As of June 30, 2021, \$1,470,235 had been directly deposited into the bank accounts of eligible students. Therefore, 79.5% of the funds have been successfully deposited. Another \$350,840 was in transit via checks.

Total Student Awards Made

Prior to the awards for the Spring Semester of 2021, \$7,624 of CARES funds remained. Individual students were not identified as receiving CARES funds versus CRRSAA/ARP funds. Thus if estimated, of the total 4,587 student awards issued related to enrollment in the Spring of 2021 semester, 4,574 would be attributable to the CRRSAA/ARP funding.

Communication to Students

Spring Semester of 2021

On April 29, 2021, the following message was emailed to the eligible students:

“Dear Student,

Your Financial Aid award for the 2020-2021 academic year has been updated to include funding from the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This award is meant to assist you with your expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses. You are receiving this award because you were a FAFSA-eligible student enrolled in an eligible program on April 17, 2021.

The full details of your award are available in your Financial Aid Self-Service account. Please read the following instructions completely, as they can impact the delivery date of the funding.

In order to receive these funds in a timely manner, you will need to select your refund preference in Bank Mobile (if you have not already done so), which is our platform for distributing money to students. You can select your refund preference by following these instructions:

1. Go to RefundSelection.com
2. Get Personal Code
 - a) In the middle of the page select “Need a Code?”
 - b) Enter School Name Exactly as Follows:

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College

c) Enter you Student email address

d) Continue

e) The code will be emailed to your student email address

3. Go back to RefundSelection.com

4. Enter Personal Code

5. Create your login information

6. Select how you would like your money

7. Complete your profile

Please note that failure to select your refund preference may result in a lengthy delay of receiving this money. If you ultimately do not claim your award, the money will be returned to A-B Tech for redistribution to other students. Please contact the AB Tech Business Office with any questions you may have: BusinessOffice@abtech.edu

The College anticipates disbursement will occur on Tuesday, May 4 2021.

*Please note: If you have not claimed your award by August 4, 2021, it will be returned to the college and redistributed to other eligible students.