

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act (CRRSA Act)

Saint Paul College – Reporting Period: April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021

- 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 and ARP(a)(1) and (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.***

Saint Paul College signed and submitted the Certificate and Agreement for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act on April 13, 2020. Saint Paul College will direct all student emergency funds to students as required by the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.

- 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 and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.***

Saint Paul College was notified on January 14, 2021 that the college would receive \$2,290,260 of student emergency funds as part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act. On May 11, 2021 Saint Paul College was notified that we will receive \$9,000,734 of student emergency funds as part of the American Rescue Plan.

- 3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the initial report and every calendar quarter thereafter).***

\$354,525 of CRRSAA was distributed to students during the current quarterly reporting period. As of 6/30/2021 Saint Paul College distributed \$2,087,205 of total CRRSAA funds to students. As of June 30, 2021, ARP funds have not been distributed.

- 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 ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.***

The eligible number of students in that period of time was 2246, but has increased now that all students enrolled since March 13, 2020 are eligible to receive emergency funds.

- 5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.***

526 students received student emergency funds during this period.

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 and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.

CRRSAA

Saint Paul College received \$2,290,260 of student emergency funds as part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act. The CRRSA Act directed that a portion of the HEERF II money must go toward emergency student financial assistance for students with exceptional need. Saint Paul College distributed these funds through two awarding methods, Supplemental CRRSA Awards for Pell and State Grant recipients and CRRSAA Emergency Funds Application Awards.

Most students attending Saint Paul College in Spring 2021 were eligible for one or both of these awards, but there were ineligible students initially. Various restrictions on the use of these funds were established through regulatory direction from the federal Department of Education and the Minnesota State Office of the Chancellor. These restrictions mean that several categories of students could not receive emergency financial assistance, including:

- Concurrent high school students
- Postsecondary enrollment option students (PSEO)
- DACA/DREAM Act Students
- Senior citizens assessed the senior citizen tuition rates
- enrolled entirely in non-credit courses
- Incarcerated students
- International students with an F1 Visa status in SEVIS

Saint Paul College defined students with exceptional need as eligible for a Federal Pell Grant or Minnesota State Grant. Pell Grant recipients were identified by the [U.S. Department of Education](#) as a priority group for exceptional need. We are also included Minnesota State Grant recipients, as they are students from low- and moderate- income families determined through criteria by the [Minnesota Office of Higher Education](#).

Students who received a Federal Pell Grant or Minnesota State Grant in the Spring 2021 semester who were actively enrolled during the semester received a \$775 CRRSAA Supplemental Award. Distribution of those funds were made on March 17, 2021. On May 11, 2021, new guidance allowed DACA students to receive HEERF funds. DACA students were awarded \$775 CRRSAA Supplemental awards on May 19th, 2021.

Remaining funds were available to students through the online [Saint Paul College Emergency Funds Application](#). A CRRSAA Emergency Fund was made available on the emergency funds application and eligibility continued to follow established Saint Paul College Emergency Funds policy and process. Maximum awards were \$600 per term. Recipients initially needed to be a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-citizen and have a 2020-2021 FAFSA on file at Saint Paul College to access the fund. DACA and International Students were not eligible for the CRRSAA Emergency Fund, but guidance released on May 11, 2021 allowed these students to access the funds.

ARP

As of June 30, 2021 the distribution plan for Summer 2021 and Fall 2021 had not been finalized.

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

- A presentation was given to the Saint Paul College Student Senate on 1/22/2021 and 2/10/2021 in planning distribution of CRRSAA funds.
- A broadcast email was sent to students on March 11, 2021 regarding the distribution plan for the CRRSA Act student emergency funds.
- A [new webpage](#) was created on March 11, 2021 to explain the distribution plan for CRRSAA funds.
- A presentation was given to the Saint Paul College Student Senate on 5/26/2021 with information on the ARP and to solicit feedback on a distribution plan for Summer 2021 and Fall 2021.
- A survey was sent to Spring 2021 emergency funds recipients on May 28, 2021 requesting feedback on the prior distribution of funds and their need for future assistance. The survey was sent to 2266 students and was completed by 475 students. Feedback from the survey was used in development of future plans and decisions.
- A [new webpage](#) was created on June 23, 2021 to explain the distribution plan for ARP funds.