

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Saint Paul College – Reporting Period: October 1, 2021 – December 31, 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).***

\$92,201 of CRRSAA was distributed to students during the current quarterly reporting period. As of 12/31/2021 Saint Paul College distributed \$2,290,260 of total CRRSAA funds to students.

\$5,212,198 of ARP was distributed to students during the current quarterly reporting period. As of 12/31/2021 Saint Paul College distributed \$6,184,891 of total ARP funds to 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 ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.***

2376 eligible number of students received a bulk distribution of \$1600 ARP in Fall 2021. 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.***

2743 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.*

On March 11th 2021, federal legislation was signed by the President of the United States to provide economic relief to individuals and organizations dealing with ramifications of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This legislation—titled the American Rescue Plan (or ARP)—is the third source of funding and second supplement from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) for colleges and universities in the United States.

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. Saint Paul College distributed these funds through two awarding methods, Supplemental ARP Awards for Pell and State Grant recipients and CRRSAA and ARP Emergency Funds Application Awards.

In addition to passing new funding, the Department of Education determined that the following students are now eligible for the American Rescue Plan and remaining CRRSA Act funds.

- Concurrent high school students
- Postsecondary enrollment option students (PSEO)
- DACA/Dream Act Students
- International students

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. Below are students who continue to be not eligible for HEERF Student Emergency funds.

- Senior Citizens assessed the senior citizen tuition rate
- Students enrolled entirely in non-credit courses
- Incarcerated students

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 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 can also demonstrate exceptional need through the Saint Paul College Student Emergency Funds Application.

ARP Supplemental Awards - Fall 2021

Saint Paul College issued emergency student financial assistance payments of \$1600 to students who received a Federal Pell Grant, Minnesota State Grant and/or Minnesota Dream Act in the Fall 2021 semester. These students demonstrated exceptional need based on their eligibility for Federal Pell Grants and/or the Minnesota State Grant/Minnesota Dream Act. No application was required for the ARP Supplemental Award. Students who received at least one of these awards during Fall 2021 semester will received the \$1600 ARP Supplemental Award starting 10/31/2021. The \$1600 payment was recorded as an **ARP Supplemental Award** on the Bills and Payments section in eServices.

CRRSAA and ARP Emergency Fund Applications

A \$1000 ARP Emergency Fund award was made available on the [Saint Paul College Student Emergency Funds Application](#). Students demonstrated exceptional need through this request. Eligible emergency events include but are not limited to child care, transportation, housing crisis, food, utilities (shut-off notices), medical bills, medications, and replacement of destroyed or stolen college textbooks. Information about the eligibility requirements for ARP Emergency Funds and other Saint Paul College emergency funds, as well as the application, is available on the [Saint Paul College Student Emergency Funds Application website](#). All students who were enrolled after March 13, 2020 were considered eligible to apply for CRRSAA and ARP Emergency Funds. Awards were up to \$1000 for the Fall 2021 semester and students could apply more than once during the semester for a maximum of \$2000 for the semester.

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

- 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.
- A presentation was given to the Saint Paul College Student Senate on 9/3/2021 by the Saint Paul College Financial Aid Director with information on the ARP and to solicit feedback on the Fall 2021 distribution plan.
- The Saint Paul College Financial Aid Director presented information on student emergency funds to the Fall 2021 Student Senate September General Assembly on 9/22/2021.
- On 10/4/2021, the Student Senate President drafted a letter in support of the plan on behalf of Student Senate.
- A broadcast email was sent to all students on 10/14/2021 with information on the distribution plan and how to apply for student emergency funds.