

**Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental
Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)/
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)
Quarterly Report – June 30, 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. CRRSAA authorizes \$81.88 billion in support for education, in addition to the \$30.75 billion expeditiously provided in the Spring of 2020 through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136. On March 11, 2021, the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III), authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, was signed into law. ARP/HEERF III provides \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each HEERF participating institution is required to make public the following information:

Certification and Agreement

Glen Oaks Community College has signed and returned the HEERF Certification and Agreement forms to the Department of Education. The College intends to use the student portion of HEERF funds to make emergency financial aid grants available to students.

Total Amount of Funds

GOCC received \$288,341 for the student portion of CARES/HEERF I and an additional \$288,341 from CRRSAA/HEERF II. Through the American Rescue Plan (ARP), GOCC received an allocation of \$1,083,500 for a total of \$1,660,182 to be used for student emergency grant aid since March 2020.

Amount of Emergency Aid Distributed

The total amount of awarded grant funds for this quarterly reporting period was \$65,708.99. Of this amount, \$47,491 was disbursed through the remaining CRRSAA/HEER II funds and \$18,217.99 was disbursed through ARP funds.

Estimated Total Number of Students Eligible

One-hundred ninety-one (191) students were eligible to receive emergency grant aid during the Summer 2021 semester.

Number of Students Awarded Emergency Grants

During the Summer 2021 term, a total of 122 enrolled students received emergency grant aid. Of these 122, 83 students received grants through CRRSAA/HEERF II funds, and 39 students received grants through ARP/HEERF III funds.

Methods for Determining Eligibility and Distribution of Funds

The college followed the U.S. Department of Education (ED) guidelines to determine student eligibility for HEER funds. According to the ED, colleges and universities were required to prioritize grant funding to students with exceptional financial need, such as students who receive Pell grants. Students who did not receive Pell were still eligible for funding through an application process.

Based on the ED guidance, the committee elected to automatically block award grants for all Pell recipients. Pell students who did not apply for a grant received a block award amount (\$100-500) based upon their Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) level and enrollment intensity (number of contact hours enrolled). Pell recipients who completed the application process had the opportunity to receive funds (\$150-1000) in addition to the block award. The combined award was based upon three categories: financial need on the FAFSA (EFC), financial need as described on the student's application, and enrollment intensity. Applicants who did not file a FAFSA and/or who did not qualify for Pell were awarded grants (\$150-1000) based upon application information and enrollment intensity.

Students had the option on the application to elect whether they wanted the emergency grants to be directly applied to their student account balance or whether they wanted a grant check mailed to the address on file with the college's Registrar's Office. Awards were transmitted to student account balances on June 9, 2021, and grant checks were mailed June 17, 2021.

Guidance Provided to Students

On May 7, 2021, the Vice President of Student Services notified all students via their college email of the availability of, and eligibility requirements of, HEERF. Included in this email was a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to address the application process, award amounts, eligibility requirements, prioritization of funds, etc. Students were also notified that the HEER funds could be used toward any expenses associated with their cost of attendance, including tuition, textbooks, course materials, food, technology, housing, healthcare, transportation, childcare, etc. This communication was also posted on the glenoaks.edu/coronavirus web page

created specifically for COVID-19 related updates. Information was provided to local media outlets and was also posted on the college's social media accounts.

The VP of Student Services informed students via email that, after applications were reviewed, students could view the award amounts in MyGOCC, the student portal. A follow up email was sent to students when the awards were posted on students' accounts.

A letter accompanied the mailed grant checks with an overview of the HEER funds and a list of eligible expenditures for the funds. In this letter, the college's Business Office encouraged students to contact their local tax advisor for information on any tax implications regarding emergency funding. Pell recipients who did not apply but were block awarded grants were notified in this letter that the college determined, based upon information from their FAFSA, they would benefit from emergency grant funds.

Each grant recipient's situation was evaluated individually based on the information provided in the student's application, on the FAFSA, and by enrollment intensity. GOCC maintained flexibility to determine the amount awarded to each student on a case-by-case basis.