



## HEERF III Student Fund Reporting Requirements – 12.14.21 Round I

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) was authorized by the American Recovery Plan (ARP) and signed into law March 11, 2021 to provide support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. ARP funds are HEERF funds in addition to funds authorized by the CRRSAA and CARES Act.

1. WSC signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for Students. WSC intends to use the funds designated under Section 314 (a)(1) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and American Recovery Plan Act (ARP) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. Williston State College received ARP Grant Funds of \$928,951. This amount is designated for emergency financial aid grants for students.
3. Of these funds, \$823,620 have been disbursed to students as of December 09, 2021.
4. As of December 09, 2021, 647 students received ARP Grant funding under Section 314(a)(1) of the ARP.
5. According to the US Department of Education, students with financial need should be prioritized. Williston State college will give all currently enrolled (as of November 1, 2021) degree-seeking students ARP HEERF III funds. Pell-eligible students were identified as the students with exceptional need. We also have a second category of recipients who are all other degree-seeking, enrolled students (as of November 1, 2021). We are not focusing on credit-load, they just had to be degree-seeking and enrolled.
6. WSC's model for distribution to recipients is outlined below:

<b>Pell-Eligible (with FAFSA)</b>	<b>Award Amt</b>	<b>Total</b>
188 students	\$1500	282,000
<b>All other degree-seeking enrolled students</b>	<b>Award Amt</b>	<b>Total</b>
459 students	\$1180	\$541,620
<b>TOTAL HEERF III FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO STUDENTS 12/10/2021</b>		<b>\$823,620</b>

7. An email was sent to all campus emails on Monday, October 27, 2021 with information regarding the ARP Act. All recipients of the ARP funds were emailed on Monday, December 6, 2021 informing them on where to view their award, when refunds would begin, and how they would receive their refund. This notice also included that if the student had an outstanding balance with WSC, the grant could be applied to the balance if they responded with a request to apply to the account balance no later than 4:30pm CTS on Wednesday, December 8, 2021.



**Email sent to all WSC students:**

**From:** Fry, Amy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:47 PM  
**To:** [WSC-ALLSTUDENTS@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU](mailto:WSC-ALLSTUDENTS@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU)  
**Subject:** ARP Act / HEERF III Grant for Students

WSC Students:

On March 11, 2021, the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations (ARP) Act was signed into law. Similar to the CARES Act that passed in March 2020 and the CRRSA Act that passed in December 2020, this act included funding to institutions of higher education, referred to as the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). This fund provides students with grants to offset the unexpected expenses they may have incurred as campus operations were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. WSC is currently working to finalize its campus-specific protocol to distribute student funds, which will be based on the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) data and current fall 2021 term enrollment status to determine eligibility. There will not be an application for this grant. Unfortunately, not all students will be eligible to receive emergency grant funding. The ARP Act grant may be used to cover any component of a student's cost of attendance (COA), OR for emergency costs that arise due to COVID-19, including tuition, food, housing, health care and childcare. All ARP Act recipients will be notified by email within two to three weeks.

**Email sent to ARP Grant recipients:**

**From:** WSC FinancialAid  
**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 11:51 AM  
**To:** WSC FinancialAid <[wsc.financialaid@willistonstate.edu](mailto:wsc.financialaid@willistonstate.edu)>  
**Subject:** ARP Act Grant Recipients  
**Importance:** High

Good Morning,

You are a recipient of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) HEERF III grant from WSC in the amount of \$1,500.00. Your ARP/HEERF III grant will be viewable on your Campus Connection by 4:30PM, Thursday, December 9, 2021. Your award will disburse Friday, December 10, 2021. Eligibility is based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) data and current Fall 2021 term enrollment status as of 11:59pm CST on November 1, 2021. There is not an application for this grant. As a reminder, the AARP/HEERF III grant may be used to cover any component of a student's cost of attendance (COA). **If you currently have an outstanding balance with WSC and would like your grant applied to the balance, please respond to this email with a request to apply the grant to your account balance no later than 4:30p, CST on Wednesday, December 8, 2021.**

If you have any question, please let us know.

**From:** WSC FinancialAid  
**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 12:18 PM  
**To:** WSC FinancialAid <[wsc.financialaid@willistonstate.edu](mailto:wsc.financialaid@willistonstate.edu)>  
**Subject:** ARP Act Grant Recipients

Good Afternoon,

You are a recipient of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) HEERF III grant from WSC in the amount of \$1,180.00. Your ARP/HEERF III grant will be viewable on your Campus Connection by 4:30PM, Thursday, December 9, 2021. Your award will disburse Friday, December 10, 2021. Eligibility is based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) data and current Fall 2021 term enrollment status as of 11:59pm CST on November 1, 2021. There is not an application for this grant. As a reminder, the AARP/HEERF III grant may be used to cover any component of a student's cost of attendance (COA). **If you currently have an outstanding balance with WSC and would like your grant applied to the balance, please respond to this email with a request to apply the grant to your account balance no later than 4:30p, CST on Wednesday, December 8, 2021.**