



## **HEERF II Student Fund Reporting Requirements – 6.30.21**

On December 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act was signed into law. Similar to the CARES Act passed in March 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 continued to be disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Williston State College signed and returned the Certification and Agreement to the Department of Education, that indicates an intent of using no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSA Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. The amount allocated to Williston State College in CRRSA Act Grant funds is \$169,405. This amount is designated for emergency financial aid grants for students.
3. Of these funds, \$164,915 have been disbursed to students as of April 30, 2021.
4. As of April 30, 2021, 193 out of an estimated 202 students received CRRSA Act Grant funding under Section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSA Act.
5. According to the US Department of Education, students with financial need should be prioritized. Therefore, WSC prioritized and determined eligibility of students who had submitted the 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, received a Pell Grant, and who were enrolled for spring 2021 semester as of 11:59pm CST on Friday, April 9, 2021.

WSC's model for distribution to recipients is outlined below and was distributed based on the meeting minimum qualifications set by WSC and enrollment status as of 11:59pm CST on Friday, April 9, 2021

• Full time (12+ credits)	\$955
• Three-quarter time (9-11 credits)	\$755
• Half time (6-8 credits)	\$555
• Less than half time (1-5 credits)	\$355

6. An email was sent to all campus emails on Thursday, April 8, 2021 with information regarding the CRRSA Act. All recipients of the CRRSA Act were emailed on Monday, April 12, 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 Friday, April 16, 2021.



**Email sent to all WSC students:**

**From:** WSC Financial Aid  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 8, 2021 2:46 PM  
**To:** WSC-ALL STUDENTS  
**Subject:** CRRSA Act / HEERF II Grant for Students (Spring 2021)

WSC Students:

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act was recently passed by Congress in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which included funding to institutions of higher education using the same Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) model that was established in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Securities (CARES) Act.

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 spring 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 CRRSA 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 child care. All CRRSA Act recipients will be notified by Monday, April 12th, 2021.

**Email sent to CRRSA Act Grant recipients:**

**From:** WSC Financial Aid  
**Sent:** Monday, April 12, 2021 *(beginning at 5:09 PM)*  
**BCC:** *(recipients)*  
**Subject:** CRRSA Act Grant Recipients

Good afternoon,

You are a recipient of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act grant from WSC. You will be notified when your CRRSA Act grant is viewable on your Campus Connection within the upcoming weeks. Eligibility is based on the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) data and current spring 2021 term enrollment status as of 11:59pm CST on Friday, April 9, 2021. There is not an application for this grant.

As a reminder, the CRRSA Act 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 with a request to apply to your account balance no later than 4:30pm CTS on Friday, April 16, 2021.

Please watch your student email for further guidance. If you have any questions, please let us know.

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