



**Quarterly Report on Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II & III: CRRSAA & ARP
Report #5 – March 31, 2022**

Whittier College PR/Award Number: P425E202004

In compliance with Section 314(e) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Whittier College submits this report regarding funds received through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (HEERF III) supplemental award to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. The HEERF provides funding to institutions of higher education “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.”

1. Acknowledgment of Funding and Certification

Whittier College acknowledges that it received the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Supplemental Agreement (CFDA/ALN 84.425E) ((a)(1) Student Aid Portion) and that by drawing down the grant funds agreed to be bound by the conditions set forth in the Supplemental Agreement to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Whittier College students.

2. Total Supplemental Awards

Whittier College received a supplemental award of **\$939,775** pursuant to Section 314(d)(5) of the CRRSAA which requires recipient institutions of higher education to provide at least the same amount of funding in financial aid grants to students as was required to be provided under sections 18004(a)(1) and (c) of division B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

Whittier College subsequently received a supplemental award of **\$2,523,096** pursuant to Section 2003(7) to provide emergency financial aid grants to students in an amount equivalent to the sum of two amounts: 50 percent of the portion of its allocation that is based on formula factors from CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(A)-(D) and 100 percent of the portion of its allocation that is based on formula factors from CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(E)-(F).

3. Funds Distributed to Date

CRRSAA: As of June 30, 2021, Whittier College disbursed **\$939,775** in CRRSAA Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. ARP Emergency Financial Aid Grants will be disbursed in Fiscal Year 2022.

ARP: No ARP Emergency Financial Aid grants were disbursed before March 31, 2022. Disbursal of Whittier College’s American Rescue Plan of 2021 supplemental award was delayed as a result of deliberations with the U.S. Department of Education.

4. Student Eligibility

CRRSAA: The estimated total number of Whittier College students eligible to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under the CRRSAA is **413** students.

ARP: The estimated total number of Whittier College students eligible to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under the ARP is **1,326** students.

5. Number of Student Recipients

CRRSAA: Whittier College disbursed Emergency Financial Aid grants to **397** students under the CRRSAA (a)(1) program from March 1, 2021 through May 25, 2021. Students were required to positively affirm their preferred method of disbursement: check, direct deposit, or application to their outstanding student account balance.

ARP: No ARP Emergency Financial Aid grants were disbursed before March 31, 2022. Disbursal of Whittier College’s American Rescue Plan of 2021 supplemental award was delayed as a result of deliberations with the U.S. Department of Education.

6. Methods Used to Determine which Students Receive Emergency Aid and How Much

CRRSAA: In response to the CRRSAA’s requirement to prioritize students with exceptional need, Whittier College restricted Emergency Financial Aid grants to students enrolled in the Spring 2021 semester with an Expected Family Contribution less than or equal to \$7,800 as determined by their Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA). Eligible students totaled 604, however, 191 students who were awarded a special 2021 Whittier College scholarship from a private donor were excluded from consideration. Of the 413 eligible students offered CRRSAA grants, 16 never responded to multiple requests for information and thus forfeited their grants.

The grant amount was determined by:

- Academic Year 2020-2021 Pell Grant status;
- The Expected Family Contribution amount;
- The student’s Graduate or Undergraduate status.

Based on these factors, eligible students received a CRRSAA grant up to the amount indicated below:

Student Status	Maximum Grant Amount
Pell Grant Undergraduate Recipients	\$2,500
Non-Pell Undergraduates	\$2,250
Graduate Students	\$2,000

ARP: Whittier College will distribute the full ARP \$2,0523,096 award directly to Fall 2021 graduates and Spring 2022 degree-seeking enrolled students as emergency financial aid grants. The methodology to prioritize students with exceptional need centers on the student’s Pell Status and Unmet Need calculation. Eligible degree-seeking students total 1,326 as follows:

- Pell Grant status for the 2021-2022 academic year;
- Unmet Need as calculated by the Office of Financial Aid which factors in Cost of Attendance, Expected Family Contribution, and Need-based and Merit Aid.

Student Status	Minimum Grant Amount	Maximum Grant Amount
Pell Grant Recipients	\$3,000	\$3,500
Non-Pell Grant Recipients	\$500	\$2,750

7. Outreach and Instructions to Students

CRRSAA: The campus community was informed about Whittier College’s Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act award and the eligibility criteria for student grantees via email on February 24, 2021. The information was also posted to the [College website](#). Students eligible for CRRSAA Emergency Financial Aid grants were informed through a subsequent email about the requirements to receive their grant which required the completion of an online form indicating their preferred disbursement method, updating current contact information, and instructions to self-enroll in non-payroll direct deposit if necessary.

A series of reminders were sent to nonresponsive eligible students. The dedicated email address established under the CARES Act grant distribution was renamed heerf@whittier.edu to respond to student questions.

ARP: In December 2021, students were notified via email and mail of the opportunity to adjust their 2021-2022 FAFSA per HEA 479A as mandated by the HEERF III Institutional grant terms. The campus community was informed about Whittier College’s American Rescue Plan Act award and the eligibility criteria for student grantees via email on April 1, 2022. The information was also posted to the [College website](#).

Pell recipients were informed through a subsequent direct email on April 1, 2022 about the requirements to receive their grant. Non-Pell recipients will be contacted after disbursements to Pell recipients have been completed. Students are required via an online form to provide affirmative consent for their HEERF III grant to be applied to their student account balance or to indicate if they prefer to receive the payment through direct deposit or check.

The dedicated heerf@whittier.edu email address is available for student and parent questions.