

CRRSAA (HEERF II) Student Aid Frequently Asked Questions

What is CRRSAA (HEERF II)?

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 included additional COVID-19 relief through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act. This new Congressional COVID stimulus bill included \$23 billion for higher education institutions and students, using the same Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) model established in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

How will I know if I will receive a CRRSAA (HEERF II) grant?

Students who qualify for a grant will be notified by an email from the Office of Financial Aid.

How were the grant amounts determined?

Unlike the CARES Act, the CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need. To this end, the University identified all currently enrolled (Spring 2021) ABJ, Law, SPCS, and MBA students who received a Federal Pell Grant as of March 1, 2021 and those students who both received Title IV aid as of March 1, 2021 and have a Federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$10,000. Students who received a Federal Pell Grant as of March 1, 2021 are eligible to receive a grant of \$1,515. Students who received a Federal Direct Loan as of March 1, 2021 and have a Federal EFC of less than \$10,000 are eligible for a \$1,000 grant.

Do I have to repay this money?

No. Funds issued to you through CRRSAA (HEERF II) are considered emergency grant money and do not need to be repaid.

Do I need to certify or provide documentation to show that I am using this money for eligible expenses?

Your acceptance of the funding serves as your certification that you incurred or expect to incur eligible expenses. You will not be expected to provide additional supporting documentation for coronavirus-related expenses that you incurred. However, if you feel you did not incur or will not incur any eligible expenses, please notify the Office of Financial Aid at (804) 289-8438 or finaid@richmond.edu no later than March 7, 2021 to decline or modify your award.

Can I hold these funds on my student account?

No. These grants must be directly distributed to students to pay for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. The University cannot use these funds to offset student charges automatically. However, once the money has been deposited in your account, you may choose to apply the funds to your student account to cover any component of your cost of attendance.

Do I have to set up direct deposit to receive my grant money?

To receive your award in the shortest time possible, you should sign up for direct deposit on [BannerWeb](#). Instructions on how to sign up for direct deposit for accounts payable items can be found on the [Bursar's Office webpage](#). If direct deposit is not an option, please verify your mailing address on [BannerWeb](#) and email bursar@richmond.edu to request payment by check.

Will this funding affect my financial aid?

No. CRRSAA (HEERF II) emergency grants do not count towards Estimated Financial Assistance (EFA) and do not impact future financial aid eligibility.

Is this grant money taxable?

No. CRRSAA (HEERF II) emergency grants are not treated as taxable income.

Are students who are not U.S. citizens or legal residents eligible for student grants under CRRSAA (HEERF II)?

No. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, which prohibits certain noncitizens from receiving federal benefits, applies to HEERF II funds, making DACA, undocumented, and international students ineligible. However, the University will still provide institutional grants to these students using similar methodology.

Who do I contact if I have questions about CRRSAA (HEERF II) and these grants?

Contact the Office of Financial Aid at (804) 289-8438 or finaid@richmond.edu.