

This document provides the necessary information to comply with Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act" or the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281.

Institution Name: Aquinas College

Date of report: 3/31/2022



Institution has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement document under ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Total amount of **funds the institution will receive** from the Department for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students:

**OR**

Total amount of **funds the institution has received** from the Department for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students: \$2,892,911

**TOTAL AMOUNT** of Emergency Financial Aid **Grants DISTRIBUTED to students** under ARP(a)(1) and (a)(4) *as of the quarter ending this report:* \$2,842,712

**ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER of STUDENTS** at the institution **ELIGIBLE** to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) program: 1290

**TOTAL NUMBER of STUDENTS** who **HAVE RECEIVED** an Emergency Financial Aid Grant: 1286

**Method(s) used by the institution to determine WHICH STUDENTS receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and HOW MUCH they would receive:**

We obtained a list of all students who were enrolled for the fall 2021 semester who met the qualifications to receive funds under the ARP funds as set by the Department of Education. We divided the students into groups based on their Academic level, Student Type and Term Load along with residential status for the fall 2021 semester and identified key expenses that each group may encounter. We also divided each students into expected family contribution (EFC) categories based on their current FAFSA, including one for those students who did not file a FAFSA as well. This does not signify that they do not have financial need. Instead, most students believe that they will not receive any federal aid so they do not complete a FAFSA. The amount awarded to each student was scaled in relation to their enrollment status, residency, EFC and estimated cost of attendance. The largest allocation of funds was awarded to those students with low EFC, full time status and resident student and the lowest allocation to those students who had a high EFC with continuing education status and non-residents. On average the award amounts under ARP were approximately double that which were awards under CRRSA.

Students are required to complete an online survey that was sent to their college email address. This survey required them to indicate by which means they wanted their funds disbursed - direct payment, applied to their outstanding balance or as a credit on their account for future semesters. Disbursements will be made weekly based on the responses received.

Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid

Grants:

The following message was sent to students receiving the ARPAct (HEERF III)funds:

We hope you are starting your semester strong and are staying healthy. We wanted to provide you with some information regarding the federal government's Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III), how it affects you and actions you need to take to receive your disbursement.

The federal government approved HEERF III as part of the American Rescue Plan(ARP) on March 11, 2021 to provide support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure higher learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included an allocation of funds to higher education institutions based on a specific calculation involving the number of students eligible for the Federal Pell Grant. The U.S. Department of Education provided specific instructions on the use and distribution method for those funds.

We are pleased to be able to provide direct emergency aid to our students for any component of your cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care. With this grant you have the ability to have funds disbursed directly to you, designate your funds to cover your current student account balance or have your funds held by AQ to be applied to your future semester charges. The Internal Revenue Service has indicated that this grant is not included in your gross income for tax purposes.

It is our objective to provide these funds to as many Aquinas College students that meet the requirements set by the Department of Education as possible. Applications are not required however your response is. The College considered several points in determining the individual award amounts, such as undergraduate, graduate, resident, commuter, expected family contribution, etc.

Distribution of funds will begin in October. In order to receive your disbursement October 13th, please complete the following below by noon on October 8th. Otherwise disbursements will occur every other week and will depend on when you complete the items below. IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND THEN WE CANNOT PROVIDE THIS FREE MONEY TO YOU.

Enter or update your bank routing and account information on MyAQ. (Please note that you need to login again on the top right of the MyAQ landing page) If we do not have your direct deposit information, you will be mailed a check.

Please review your current address listed on MyAQ.

Complete the HEERF3 Survey at <https://forms.gle/JL4dxGhAX4VNTgho9> This survey will allow you to designate disbursement of these funds-apply to current AQ balance, hold for future semester charges, or disburse funds to you.

For questions or help with entering your direct deposit information or updating your address, please contact [studentaccounts@aquinas.edu](mailto:studentaccounts@aquinas.edu) or call (616) 632-2864 Monday-Friday between 9 a.m.-4 p.m.