



Business and Financial Affairs Office

## MEMORANDUM

FROM: Leslie Brunelli, Senior Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs

DATE: December 31, 2021

Subject: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF) Required Reporting  
October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

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The University of Denver will receive funding totaling \$12,232,909 from the third allocation from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Allocations totaling \$6,129,883 will be received to support student aid and \$6,103,026 will be received for institutional support.

As of December 31, 2021, the University of Denver has drawn all of the institutional portion for COVID mitigation and reported via the Department of Education required form.

As of December 31, 2021 the University of Denver distributed \$4,118,750 of the \$6,129,883 for student support with \$1,569,000 drawn and disbursed in the fourth quarter. Each draw and disbursement of funds adheres to the Department of Education internal controls guidance, cost principles and audit requirements for Federal awards. Additional information on the student portion is provided.

Additional inquiries regarding the use and reporting of HEERF awards may be directed to me at 303871-3750 or [leslie.brunelli@du.edu](mailto:leslie.brunelli@du.edu).

The University noted in earlier quarterly reports that we have completed expenditures of the HEERF I (CARES Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act) and the HEERF II (CRRSAA Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act) funds. The quarterly report below is for fourth quarter 2021 reporting regarding HEERF III (ARPA the American Rescue Plan Act), and paragraph 2 includes cumulative numbers from all three HEERF distributions.

University of Denver  
HEERF III Student Portion  
Fourth quarter October through December 2021

1. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed on March 11, 2021. The Act authorizes additional funds under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). The higher education allocation in this law is known as HEERF III. The University effectively agreed to the terms and conditions of accepting the federal funds when drawing the funds of the HEERF II funds under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). The University is expecting to receive \$6,129,883 in HEERF III funds for direct support to students. The University is using the funds as required to provide emergency financial aid grants directly to students.

2. By the end of the fourth quarter the University received \$8,745,020 in total HEERF student funding, I, II, and III. The University received \$2,313,135 in student funds under the CARES Act (HEERF I) and fully distributed those funds to students by June 30, 2020. The University received \$2,313,135 in student funds under the CRRSAA (HEERF II) and fully distributed those funds to students by June 30, 2021. The University is authorized to receive a total of \$6,129,883 in ARPA HEERF III funds for distribution to students. As of the December 31st 4th quarter reporting date the University has received in the amount of \$4,118,750 including \$1,567,500 received during the fourth quarter.

3. The University distributed HEERF III funds of \$1,569,000 during the fourth quarter ending December 31, 2021 directly to students as emergency financial aid grants.

4. The estimated number of eligible students based on enrollment numbers during the final six months of 2021 is 15,293. We prioritize current enrollment. As required we prioritize students with exceptional need.

5. The University distributed funds to 1,046 students during the fourth quarter totaling \$1,569,000.

6. We identified exceptional need students based on the criteria outlined here and professional review within the financial aid office. Similar to the August 2021 HEERF III distribution, during the fourth quarter we distributed \$1,500 to each of 1,046 enrolled students, 49% undergraduates and 51% graduate students. The fourth quarter distribution focused on students newly enrolled at the University. At the undergraduate level we included newly enrolled lower income students including Pell eligible students, other students with a low expected family contribution as determined by the institution's regular review of undergraduate need-based aid eligibility, and students with higher unmet need. At the graduate level the new enrollees needed to have fall 2021 registration status of eight or more credits, accepted federal loans, and a low federal EFC.

7. Based on the ARPA requirements, the University instructed students that the funds were meant to help cover expenses related to attending the University of Denver (e.g., tuition, housing, meals, etc.) or funds for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus. The student notification indicated that the would be sent directly to students either as a direct deposit to their bank account, or as a check for

those without direct deposit set up. All students also received instruction to find more information about HEERF III funds at the financial aid website where we established a HEERF web page including frequently asked questions. We also included contact information for the financial aid office and the bursar's office.