

HEERF II STUDENT ALLOCATION DISTRIBUTION PLAN

Tier 1: Pell Grant Eligible Students (Prioritizing Students with “Exceptional Need”)

The High Need Emergency Assistance Grant is designed to provide immediate relief to our students with exceptional financial need for expenses related to the coronavirus. High Need Emergency Assistance Grants in the amount of **\$705** will be automatically awarded and distributed to students who meet the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled spring 2021 as an undergraduate, degree-seeking student at MSU,
AND
- Have an expected family contribution (EFC) between 0 – 5,711.

Tier 2: All Remaining Eligible Students

The Emergency Assistance Grant is designed to provide immediate relief to our currently enrolled students for expenses related to the coronavirus. Emergency Assistance Grants in the amount of **\$505** will be automatically awarded and distributed to students who meet the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled spring 2021 as a graduate or undergraduate, degree-seeking student at MSU,
AND
- Has not been awarded a High Need Emergency Assistance Grant,
AND
- Has a valid FAFSA on file with MSU.

Affirmative Confirmation (Paying Funds to Outstanding Balance)

Prior to disbursement, all grant recipients will be provided with the opportunity to opt-in (affirmative confirmation) to allow emergency grants to be applied to outstanding account charges.

Unlike HEERF I, HEERF II funds can be applied to a student’s account to pay outstanding charges consisting of allowable costs if the student opts-in and provides written or electronic authorization for the school to do so. Opting-in cannot be a condition or receiving or eligibility for the grant funds.

Prior to disbursement, all recipients will be emailed with the protocol to have funds applied to their account or distributed directly to them:

- One of two fund codes will be added to the online spring 2021 aid offer for all eligible grant recipients. The two fund codes will differentiate between Tiers 1 & 2.
- Recipients will be instructed to **accept** the offered fund if they consent to having HEERF II grant funds applied to outstanding account charges. Recipients will be instructed to **decline** the offered fund if they do not consent to have HEERF II grant funding applied to outstanding account charges.
 - All accepted funds will be disbursed through the normal fund payment process to pay any outstanding charges first, with excess funds issued to students as a refund.
 - All declined funds will be disbursed through the special channel designed for HEERF I, bypassing outstanding account charges and issued directly to students as a refund.