

ARP / HEERF III Student Fund Reporting – 9.30.21

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed in to law. Similar to the CARES Act passed in March 2020 and the CRRSA Act passed in December 2020, this act included funding to institutions of higher education, referred to as the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). This fund provides students with grants to offset the unexpected expenses they may have incurred as campus operations continued to be disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. North Dakota State University received notification of the new ARP funds via a supplemental CARES Act Grant Award Notification from the U.S. Department of Education on May 21, 2021. Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP requires the institution to provide at least the same amount of funding in financial and grants to students as was required under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
2. The amount allocated to North Dakota State University in ARP Act Grant funds is \$10,759,296. This amount is designated for emergency financial aid grants for students.
3. Of these funds, \$5,321,576.54 has been disbursed to students as of September 30, 2021. According to the US Department of Education, students with financial need should be prioritized. Therefore, NDSU prioritized students who submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and who were enrolled for Fall 2021 semester as of September 20, 2021.
4. As of September 30, 2021, 7,910 undergraduate, professional and graduate students representing approximately 62.1% of the census student population received ARP Act Grant funding under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act.
5. NDSU must pay ARP Act grants directly to students and may only apply the grants toward outstanding institutional charges with the student's written consent.