American Rescue Plan (ARP), 2021 Pub. L. 116-260

Quarterly Report to the Secretary for the period July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021

First Report for HEERF III

On May 12, 2021, NOVA was notified that we were receiving a supplemental award of $39,982,491 pursuant to section 2003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2) are governed by section 2003 of the ARP and section 314 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (Pub. L. 116-260) and the terms and conditions of the Supplemental Agreement attached to the Grant Award Notification P425E200306-20B Action Number 4. The student portion is to be awarded as additional Student Financial Aid Emergency Grants. The allocation formula for Emergency Student Aid funding to institutions of higher education was different than the formula stipulated in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (H.R. 748), also known as the CARES Act legislation. However, institutions are required to spend the same dollar amount on student grants under CRRSAA as they were required to spend under the CARES Act (HEERF I) and the CRRSAA Act (HEERF II).

ED guidance under the CARES Act (HEERF I) encouraged institutions to prioritize students with the greatest need in their awarding. CRRSAA law included a requirement to prioritize need. NOVA awarded first to applicants who had filed the FAFSA and indicated on their application a need to cover any component of the student’s cost of attendance or emergency costs due to coronavirus, such as: tuition; food; housing; health care (including mental); childcare. HEERF III lifted most limitations and determined enrolled students eligible to receive funds.

CRRSA language around reporting reads: “Recipient must promptly and timely report to the Department on the use of funds no later than 6 months after the date of this award in a manner to be specified by the Secretary pursuant to section 314(e) of the CRRSAA. Recipient must also promptly and timely provide a detailed accounting of the use of funds provided by this award in such manner and with such subsequent frequency as the Secretary may require. NOVA provided quarterly reports for January 1 through March 31, 2021 and April 1 through June 30, 2021 to the Department and on our public website. This final report for July 1 through September 30, 2021 closes our activity regarding the awarding of CRRSAA Student Emergency Grants.

NOVA has one year from the date the school’s supplemental grant, to distribute HEERF III funds, 11 May 2022. As of the end of September 2021, the third quarter of the calendar year, NOVA had awarded $6,077,175.00 to 6,418 FAFSA completed students. Of the total HEERF III allocation, $33,905,316.00 remains to be awarded for fall 2021 and spring 2022 terms.

Additional information on NOVA’s HEERF III ARP Student Emergency Grants can be found at https://www.nvcc.edu/studentemergencyaid/. Currently NOVA’s front page for the college website https://www.nvcc.edu/ carries a drop-down ribbon labeled “COVID-19” with links to Latest Updates on the college’s response to the pandemic, Remote Student Services, CARES ACT Reporting, and full details for accessing HEERF III—ARP Emergency Grants including eligibility, Student Aid Applications, and FAQs.