

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

Quarterly Report to the Secretary for the period October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021

Second Report for HEERF III

On May 12, 2021, Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) was notified that it received a supplemental award of \$39,982,491 pursuant to section 2003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2) 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, bringing the total of HEERF I, II, and III awards to \$60,011,195. 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. The CRRSAA legislation included a requirement to prioritize need. NOVA awarded first to applicants who 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, including: tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental), and childcare. HEERF III lifted most limitations and determined enrolled students eligible to receive funds.

CRRSAA reporting language states: "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, April 1 through June 30, 2021, and July 1 through September 30, 2021 to the Department, and on the NOVA public website. This final report for October 1 through December 31, 2021 closes activity regarding the awarding of CRRSAA Student Emergency Grants for 2021.

NOVA has until May 11, 2022, one year from the date the school's supplemental grant, to distribute HEERF III funds. In the fourth quarter, ending December 31, 2021, NOVA awarded \$9,709,087. There were 10,923 students eligible for the HEERF III funding. Of those 10,923 students, 10,872 were awarded HEERF III funds for fall 2021. Due to the winter break and the end of quarter reporting preparations, the remaining 51 students will be awarded in January 2022. At the end of December 2021, NOVA awarded a total of \$15,786,262 in HEERF III funds to 11,677 students. \$24,196,229 in HEERF III funds remain available for future awards.

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.