

# Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF I, II, and III) - Student Aid Portion

## Quarterly Report for period Oct 1, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023

Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Aid Act (CRRSAA), and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) which include the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF I, II, and III respectively). The HEERF I, II and III Student Portions are meant to assist students who have experienced financial hardship relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These funds, which are grants, not loans, are available to help eligible students who are facing an unexpected financial emergency and need help with one or more of the following items in order to stay enrolled in college: housing, food, basic technology to assist with online learning, and other essentials due to circumstances relating to the pandemic.

- (1) Merritt College acknowledges that the institution signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and assures that it intends to use no less than 50% of the total funds allocated to the college under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act (HEERF I) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Per Section 314(d)(5) of the CRRSAA, the college intends to provide at least the same amount of funding in financial aid grants to students as was required to be provided under sections 18004(a)(1) and (c) of division B of the CARES Act.

- (2) Pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students, the total amount of funds received to date for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is **\$748,641** (HEERF I), **\$748,642** (HEERF II), and (HEERF III) **\$3,902,466** (US Department of Education PR/Award Number: P425E205758), for a cumulative total of **\$5,399,749**.
- (3) Amount distributed to students this quarter: **\$0.00**  
Amount distributed to students cumulatively to date: **\$5,399,749.00**
- (4) The estimated total number of Merritt College students eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus

eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, Section 314(d)(5) of the CRRSAA and Section 2003(7) of the ARP is **7,225**

(5) Number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students this quarter: **2,156**

Number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students cumulatively to date: **6,709**

(6) Eligible students must have met the following criteria, per the U.S. Department of Education requirements:

- Enrolled at any point on or after March 13, 2020
  - Have/Had Merritt College as their home school on record
  - Submitted a 2019-2020, 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 FAFSA
  - Was not a fully online student prior to March 13, 2020
  - Did not drop from all of their classes
  - Cannot be enrolled as an international student
  - Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a degree, certificate or transfer program
  - Not be enrolled in elementary or secondary school and have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent
  - Be maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP) standards
  - Not owe an overpayment on Title IV grants
  - Not be in default on a Title IV loan
  - Be a U.S. citizen or national, a permanent resident, or an eligible noncitizen
  - Have returned any fraudulently obtained Title IV funds, if the student is convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to charges
  - Not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits
  - Have repaid any Title IV loan overpayment amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits, if obtained inadvertently
  - Registered for Selective Service, if assigned male at birth
  - Have a valid Social Security Number
  - Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations
- Funds are being disbursed through the Bank Mobile Management System