



University of Maine at Augusta

**CARES Act Funding Under Section 18004(a)(1) – Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund
50% for Student Aid**

3rd Quarter Report – October 2021

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Education

Award Number: P425E201758-20A

Award Amount: \$675,763.00

Report Period: 07/01/2021-09/30/2021

Report Date: 10/7/2021

Source and Purpose of Funds

On January 14, 2021 the Department of Education released notification that Congress approved a COVID Relief bill - which included an additional round of student emergency relief funds to be distributed to students. Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) was allocated \$3,537,103 from the US Department of Education (allocation referenced as HEERF II) of which \$675,763 must be used for student aid.

Eligibility Requirements

Consistent with the guidance from the U.S. DOE, eligible students include all students who were enrolled at UMA for the Spring 2021 semester as of 3/26/2021 and are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), with the following exceptions:

- Student Enrolled in Spring 2021
- Non-degree seeking students
- International or DACA students
- Employees receiving UMS Employee Tuition benefits
- Early College students
- Department of Corrections Students

Distribution Plan

Consistent with the other institutions within the University of Maine System, of which UMA is a part, and in acknowledgement that every one of our students experienced disruption when COVID-19 forced all courses to be transitioned to online delivery, UMA will automatically distribute these funds to all eligible students. Award amounts will be tiered as follows based on the number of credit hours and demonstrated student need:

Undergraduate

.1 – 5.99 Credit Hours: \$125
6 – 11.99 Credit Hours: \$175
12+ Credit Hours: \$225

Graduate:

.1 – 5.99 Credit Hours: \$200
6 or more Credit Hours: \$300

Additional Award Based on Need:

High Need: 120
Med Need: 60

In some cases, emergency funds may have been supplemented with a portion of CARES dollars intended for institutional relief.

All distributions to student will be made via direct deposit or check. Because the IRS considers the CARES student funds as a “qualified disaster relief payment,” they are not considered taxable income.

Disbursements as of 9/30/2021

Distribution Type	Number of Eligible Students	Number of Students To Which Aid Has Been Distributed	Total Amount of Aid That Has Been Distributed	Amount of Funds Remaining for Disbursement
Automatic	2,316	0	0	\$675,763.00
Total	2,316	0	0	\$675,763.00

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Education

Award Number: P425E201758-20A

Award Amount: \$3,395,737.00

Report Period: 07/01/2021-09/30/2021

Report Date: 10/7/2021

Source and Purpose of Funds

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. ARP funds are in addition to funds authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260 and the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136. Under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP), the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) was allocated \$3,395,737 from the US Department of Education (allocation referenced as HEERF III) that must be used for student aid.

Eligibility Requirements

Awards will be based on the overall budget divided by the total eligible student enrollment for the term as of the day after the add/drop period; September 14, 2021 and February 2, 2022.

Eligible Students:

Students will be selected using the following criteria:

- Enrolled in the disbursement term
- FAFSA on file to determine EFC at the time of disbursement
- Not Department of Corrections or Early College Students

Distribution Plan

STUDENT PORTION DISTRIBUTION CATEGORIES AND TIMING

1. Direct relief grant – fall '21 and spring '22 semesters
2. Emergency grant – fall '21, and spring '22 semesters

Distribution Budget			
Program	Fall Term	Spring Term	Total Relief
Direct relief grant	1,247,800.00	1,247,800.00	2,495,600.00
Emergency grant	450,850.00	450,850.00	901,700.00
Total			3,397,300.00

Direct Relief Grant Distribution Plan:

Undergraduate:	High Need	Medium Need
0 to 5.99 Credit Hours:	\$400	\$300
6 to 11 Credit Hours:	\$500	\$400
12+ Credit Hours:	\$600	\$500

Graduate:

0 to 5.99 Credit Hour	\$500	\$400
6+ Credit Hour	\$600	\$500

Emergency Grant (Application Based):

Awards are based on Fall 2021 credit hour load and the number of applications received with awards not to exceed \$600.

All distributions to student will be made via direct deposit or check. Because the IRS considers the CARES student funds as a “qualified disaster relief payment,” they are not considered taxable income.

Disbursements as of 9/30/2021

Distribution Type	Number of Eligible Students	Number of Students To Which Aid Has Been Distributed	Total Amount of Aid That Has Been Distributed	Amount of Funds Remaining for Disbursement
Automatic	2,174	2,174	1,163,300	
Application	TBD	0	0	
Total	2,174	2,174	1,163,300	2,234,000