



UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - MINNESOTA

Report dated January 7, 2022, for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 - FINAL REPORT

1. On January 17, 2021, the University of St. Thomas received \$7,468,750 under Section 134(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). Pub. L. No. 116-260 (December 27, 2020). Under Section 314(d)(5), institutions must use at least the same amount of funding to provide emergency financial aid grants to students as was required under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. For the University of St. Thomas, this amount was \$2,502,601. Per instructions from the Department, St. Thomas drew down CRRSAA funds within 90 days of the supplemental award date, signaling our acknowledgement and acceptance of the award.

On May 25, 2021, the University of St. Thomas received \$13,531,348 under section 2003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) Pub. L. 117-2 (March 11, 2021). Under Section 2003(7), institutions must provide emergency financial aid grants to students in an amount equivalent to the sum of two amounts: 50 percent of the portion of its allocation that is based on formula factors from CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(A)-(D) and 100 percent of the portion of its allocation that is based on formula factors from CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(E)-(F). For the University of St. Thomas, this amount was \$6,766,097. Per instructions from the Department, St. Thomas drew down ARP funds within 90 days of the supplemental award date, signaling our acknowledgement and acceptance of the award.

2. St. Thomas has received \$2,502,601 from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA(a)(1) award.

St. Thomas has received \$6,766,097 from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the ARP(a)(1) award.

3. As of December 31, 2021, all Emergency Financial Aid Grants totaling \$2,502,601 have been distributed to St. Thomas students under the CRRSAA award.

As of December 31, 2021, all Emergency Financial Aid Grants totaling \$6,766,097 have been distributed to St. Thomas students under the ARP award.

4. St. Thomas estimates that 8,520 students were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under CRRSAA.

St. Thomas estimates that 15,728 current and former students were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under ARP.

5. As of December 31, 2021, Emergency Financial Aid Grants under CRRSAA have been distributed to 2,104 students. An additional 392 Emergency Financial Aid Grants were awarded under the CRRSAA institutional award.

As of December 31, 2021, Emergency Financial Aid Grants under ARP have been distributed to 6,787 students.

6. As of December 31, 2021, St. Thomas has used the following methods to determine which students receive the Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they receive:

CRRSAA: St. Thomas identified students with the most need as those who filed a FAFSA for the 2021 aid year and had an Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) between \$0 and \$15,000. Grant amounts ranged from \$250 to \$1,600 with the larger grants going to full time students with lower EFC levels.



ARP: St. Thomas offered two programs for ARP. The first program identified current or former students who were facing course cancellations due to past due student account balances or those who were enrolled at any time during the COVID-19 pandemic who had registration/transcript holds due to past due student account balances. These students were invited to apply for a grant and a committee reviewed each applicant's file to make a decision on whether to grant the student an award and how much to grant. Awards from this program ranged from \$1,000 to \$6,495. Students could choose to use the grant for any eligible purpose under ARP; they were not required to apply the grant to past due student account balances. The second program is providing grants to currently enrolled students, with most of the funding allocated to domestic, undergraduate students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. Need was determined primarily based on students' FAFSA results and corresponding Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Based on the number of eligible recipients, the emergency grants were tiered in amount, such that students with the lowest EFC's will receive the largest grants. Awards range from \$250-\$2,500 depending on several factors, including EFC and enrollment status (e.g., part time vs full time).

7. Students who received direct CRRSAA emergency grants in 2021 were notified via email on February 17, 2021. In addition, an article was posted internally on February 17, 2021 to the University of St. Thomas community at large. Attached are examples of these notifications.

Students who were eligible to apply for the first ARP program were notified via email on July 14, 2021. For the second ARP program, students who received direct ARP emergency grants in 2021 were notified via email on September 27, 2021. In addition, an article was posted internally on September 27, 2021 to the University of St. Thomas community at large. Attached are examples of these notifications.




Below is a screenshot of a notice posted to St. Thomas' internal website for CRRSAA grant

[Back](#) 2nd Round of Federal Emergency Financial Relief for Students

2nd Round of Federal Emergency Financial Relief for Students

By [REDACTED] 17 Feb 2021 09:00 am



As part of the 2021 Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act passed by Congress in December 2020, St. Thomas will receive additional relief funds to provide emergency grants to students with exceptional financial need. In addition to having exceptional need, students receiving the grants must be eligible for federal financial aid. The grants may be used for students' costs of attendance at St. Thomas, or for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus.

Based on current guidance from the Department of Education, St. Thomas will be issuing emergency grants to eligible undergraduate, graduate and Dougherty Family College students who have demonstrated exceptional need as evidenced by their FAFSA Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Based on the number of eligible recipients, the emergency grants will be tiered in amount, such that students with the lowest EFCs will receive the largest grants. Awards range from \$250 - \$1600, depending on EFC and whether the student is enrolled full-time or part-time.

Because awards are based on the above criteria, there is no separate application process for this grant. Read the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for additional information.

Students who will receive an emergency grant will be notified by email and receive funds by check or direct deposit. This emergency grant is a one-time, non-renewable grant and is not considered financial aid.

Regardless of whether they received an emergency grant, students who are facing financial hardship and difficulty managing expenses related to their attendance at St. Thomas should [contact the Financial Aid Office](#) to discuss funding options. Students who are facing challenges with other expenses should [contact the Dean of Students Office](#).

Below is an example of an email a student received upon receipt of a CRRSAA Emergency Financial Aid Grant



Dear [REDACTED]

In the coming weeks, you will receive an emergency grant from the University of St. Thomas. This grant will be made under the terms of a federal relief program related to the coronavirus. The program provides universities with funding to benefit students who have exceptional financial need and who are eligible for federal student aid. More details are below.

Please read this email carefully and take any required action to make sure you receive your grant funds.

Amount: [REDACTED]

Timing: We expect to process these payments on or about mid-to-late March 2021.

Use: The grant may be used for any component of your cost of attendance at St. Thomas or for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus. Examples include tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), child care, and similar costs.

ACTION ITEM

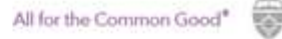
Our records indicate you have not yet verified your local address for the Spring 2021 term. **You must verify your address to receive this grant. Please do so today or as soon as possible**, by logging in to [Murphy Online](#) and following the address verification prompts.

We will issue your emergency grant in the form of a check mailed to the local address you verify or update.

If you have ongoing financial hardship that is not fully addressed by the emergency grant, we encourage you to contact your financial aid counselor, [REDACTED] to discuss your situation and possible opportunities for additional help. Your financial aid counselor can be reached at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Please review the [emergency grant FAQ](#) for additional information. If you have questions about eligibility for the emergency grant or the grant amount awarded after reviewing this additional information, please contact your financial aid counselor as noted above.

Below is an example of an email a student received upon notice that they would qualify to apply for of an ARP (HEERF III) Emergency Financial Aid Grant



You have been identified as a current or former student who may qualify for a HEERF III emergency grant. St. Thomas encourages you to apply for an emergency grant.

[Submit Your Emergency Grant Application](#)

The University of St. Thomas understands that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused unfortunate financial hardship for many. In response to the pandemic, the federal government is providing emergency funding to colleges and universities through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds program (HEERF III). Some of the HEERF III funds are designated for emergency grants to current or former students of the colleges and universities receiving the funds.

St. Thomas is now accepting applications for HEERF III emergency grants. These grants can be applied toward the cost of attendance (including current and past due tuition, room, board, books, supplies and miscellaneous expenses to attend St. Thomas) or for other costs students have incurred related to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care. It is up to the student to determine how to use the HEERF III emergency grant within these allowable uses.

To be eligible to receive a HEERF III grant, a student must have been enrolled at St. Thomas at any point on or after March 13, 2020 (the date the COVID-19 national emergency began) and must demonstrate exceptional financial need. All students who meet these criteria are eligible to apply for a HEERF III emergency grant, regardless of whether you have completed a FAFSA or are eligible to apply for or receive federal or state financial aid. Students eligible to apply for HEERF III emergency grants include U.S. citizens, permanent residents, refugees, asylum seekers, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) recipients, other DREAMers, similar undocumented students and international students.


PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS APPLICATION WILL ONLY BE OPEN UNTIL FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 4PM ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021.

Below is a screenshot of a notice posted to St. Thomas' internal website for ARP (HEERF III) grant

Back > 3rd Round of Federal Emergency Financial Relief for Students

3rd Round of Federal Emergency Financial Relief for Students

By [REDACTED] - 29 Sep 2021 11:35 am



As part of the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act passed by Congress in March of 2021, St. Thomas has received additional relief funds under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III) to provide emergency grants to students. Students may use the grants for their costs of attendance at St. Thomas, or for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus.

St. Thomas will be issuing the emergency grants to eligible graduate and undergraduate students (including Dougherty Family College students). The grants will begin to be issued around mid- to late October.

Consistent with federal requirements and guidance, most of the funding will be allocated to domestic undergraduate students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. Need will be determined primarily based on students' FAFSA results and corresponding Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Based on the number of eligible recipients, the emergency grants will be tiered in amount, such that students with the lowest EFC's will receive the largest grants. Awards will range from \$250-\$2,500 depending on several factors, including EFC and enrollment status (i.e., part time vs full time, etc.).

Because awards are based on the above criteria, there is no separate application process for this grant. Read the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.

Students who will receive an emergency grant will be notified via email and will be allowed to choose to have the funds applied to their student account balance or to receive the funds via check or direct deposit. The emergency grant is a one-time, non-renewable grant and is not considered financial aid.

Regardless of whether they received an emergency grant, students who are facing financial hardship and difficulty managing expenses related to their attendance at St. Thomas should contact the [Financial Aid Office](#) to discuss funding options. Students who are facing challenges with other expenses should contact the [Dean of Students Office](#).

Below is an example of an email a student received upon receipt of an ARP (HEERF III) Emergency Financial Aid Grant



Dear [REDACTED]

In the coming weeks, you will receive an emergency grant from the University of St. Thomas. This grant will be made under the terms of a federal relief program related to the coronavirus pandemic. The program provides universities with funding to support students. Based on federal requirements and guidance, we are prioritizing undergraduate, domestic students with exceptional financial need.

Please read this email carefully and take any required action to make sure you receive your grant funds.

Amount: \$ [REDACTED]

Timing: We expect to process these payments on or about mid-to-late October 2021.

Use: The grant may be used for any component of your cost of attendance at St. Thomas (including current or past due tuition, room, board, books, supplies or other miscellaneous expenses) or for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus, such as food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care.

ACTION ITEM

You must complete a survey to elect how you would like to receive your grant funds.

To access the HEERF III survey:

1. Log in to [Murphy Online](#)
2. Select **Personal Information/Special Roles**
3. Click on **Answer a Survey**
4. Click on **HEERF III Student Emergency Grant**
5. Complete and submit the survey to let us know how you would like to receive your grant funds.

Please complete this process as soon as possible and no later than Friday, October 1, 2021.

If you have ongoing financial hardship that is not fully addressed by the emergency grant, please contact [REDACTED] your financial aid counselor, at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] to discuss your situation and possible opportunities for additional help.

Please review the [Emergency Grant FAQ](#) for additional information. If you have questions about eligibility for the emergency grant or the grant amount awarded after reviewing this additional information, please contact your financial aid counselor as noted above.