

Federal CRRSAA (HEERF II) Emergency Aid Fund Reporting

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James Madison University

CRRSA (HEERF II) Emergency Aid Fund Reporting

The Department of Education requires institutions to report on the receipt and usage of their allocation from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II). This includes reporting of both distributions received by JMU:

- Emergency Financial Aid [Grants](#) to Students
- Institutional Portion

The report must be posted on the institution's primary website, and contain the most current information from the date the institution received its allocation.

CRRSAA (HEERF II) Institutional Portion Reporting

Original Report Date: 3/31/21 (Final)

Click [here](#) to view the Institutional Portion report

CRRSAA (HEERF II) Student Emergency Aid Fund Reporting

[Original Report Date: 6/3/21 \(Final\)](#)

Required Report Items

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1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned the Certification and Agreement form & the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than the required amount of funds received to provided HEERF grants to students. ▲

JMU acknowledges this has taken place.

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department of Education. ▲

JMU has been allocated, and received, \$6,040,329 in Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students (HEERF II).

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students. ▲

As of 6/3/21 – \$6,040,329 has been disbursed to students from this program.

4. The total number of students who have received a HEERF II grant. ▲

As of 6/3/21 – 6,048 students have received a grant from this program.

5. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive HEERF II grants and how much they would receive. ▲

Students who are enrolled in the Spring 2021 term and meet the following criteria are considered for these

funds:

- Enrolled in a degree program
- Enrolled in at least a half-time load of classes
- Have a 2020-21 [FAFSA](#) on file with JMU indicating they meet the citizenship requirements

Additionally, unlike the CARES Act, the CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional [need](#) when awarding HEERF II [Grants](#), such as students who receive Pell Grants.

JMU has defined exceptional need for the purpose of these funds based on two populations:

1. First – Group 1 students with an [Expected Family Contribution \(EFC\)](#) less than \$17,501.

Group 1: Spring 2021 enrolled students who are in a qualifying degree program, enrolled at least half-time, have a 2020-21 [FAFSA](#) on file with JMU indicating they meet the citizenship requirements, and have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the [FAFSA](#) less than 17,501. These students will be awarded a \$1,000 [grant](#). Students not meeting the Group 1 criteria when those awards were made will not automatically be offered an award if they later meet the criteria. Instead, those students will need to follow the Group 2 instructions to be considered for funds.

2. Second – Group 2 students may be determined exceptionally need based on the nature of their appeal.

Group 2: Spring 2021 enrolled students who are in a qualifying degree program, enrolled at least half-time, have a 2020-21 [FAFSA](#) on file with JMU indicating they meet the citizenship requirements, and do not see a \$1,000 HEERF II offered in MyMadison, may submit an individual appeal for up to \$1,000. Please check the 2020-21 financial aid section of your MyMadison account to see if you have been

offered an award before submitting an appeal. Having a specific EFC is not a requirement to submit an individual appeal.

Students may not receive more than \$1,000 in total HEERF II [Grants](#), so individual appeals will not be accepted for any student who received the \$1,000 offer in Group 1.

6. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the HEERF II grants. ▲

a) Group 1 students were sent an [award notice](#) that stated the following:

Notice:

As a result of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), JMU has been allocated emergency student aid funds. These funds are referred to as HEERF II Grants. According to the act, *“Institutions must make financial aid grants to students, which can be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as [tuition](#), food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care.”*

You meet the eligibility, as outlined in guidance provided by the Department of Education (ED), to be considered for assistance. As such, you can log into the 2020-21 financial aid section of your MyMadison account and see an award made for \$1,000.

Your next steps:

- If you meet the criteria outlined above, no action is needed on your part.

- If you do not meet the criteria to receive these funds, you must e-mail us at fin_aid_covid@jmu.edu to request it be canceled.
- You have the option to e-mail us at fin_aid_covid@jmu.edu if you would like to reduce the amount of the award, which would make funds available for another student.

By accepting the refund this award will generate, you are acknowledging that you have a need for these funds to help with your educational costs in the Spring 2021 term, or that you have incurred emergency costs that arose due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care.

Students will receive their award through the refund process established in the University Business Office. If you have questions about setting up the refund process, please review the website at www.jmu.edu/ubo. These funds will not be held and applied to any JMU charges. Once received, students may use the funds to assist with the designated expenses, including using them to make a payment to JMU for Spring 2021 tuition charges. These are grant awards, with no expectation of being repaid.

For additional information about this award and HEERF II funding, please visit the [JMU CRRSSA \(HEERF II\) Emergency Aid](#) website.

b) Group 2 students completed an appeal form that contained the language below. Additionally, they received a follow-up award notice that is also shown below:



Who is eligible to submit an appeal?

Students enrolled on at least a half-time basis in a degree program for the Spring 2021 term, who have a 2020-21 [FAFSA](#) on file with JMU, who pass the **Citizenship** Database Match from the FAFSA, and who did not already receive a \$1,000 HEERF II [Grant](#) may submit a HEERF II Emergency Student Aid Appeal.

While the CRRSAA does not require students to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to receive funds, the only way we can determine if a student meets the citizenship requirement in an automated fashion is for a FAFSA to be filed. Upon filing the FAFSA, the federal government conducts a Citizenship Database Match on each application. When the FAFSA data is received by JMU, it indicates whether or not the student passes the citizenship match.

Award amounts

Qualifying students with an [Expected Family Contribution \(EFC\)](#) from the [FAFSA](#) less than x will be awarded a \$1,000 HEERF II [Grant](#). Students will be able to view their award in the financial aid section of their MyMadison account.

Eligible students who did not receive the \$1,000 award in MyMadison may submit an appeal. Please refer to the **“Who is eligible to submit an appeal?” section above to determine if you meet the eligibility criteria.**

Due to the limited funding we received and the desire to assist as many students as possible, the maximum amount any student can receive is \$1,000. Please check your MyMadison account before submitting an appeal.

Receiving funds

If the appeal is approved, students will receive these funds through the refund process established in the University Business Office. If you have questions about setting up the refund process, please review the website at www.jmu.edu/ubo. These funds will not be held and applied to your JMU charges. Once received, students may use the funds to assist with the designated expenses, including using them to make a payment to JMU for Spring 2021 [tuition](#) charges. These are [grant](#) awards, with no expectation of being repaid.

Appeals for non-HEERF II assistance

If you would also like to submit a Professional Judgment request for your [FAFSA](#) to be reviewed based on changes to income in your household, then please follow the instructions in the [Financial Aid Appeals \(Professional Judgment\)](#) section of our website, as that is a separate process from this HEERF II Emergency Aid request. Unlike HEERF II funds, financial aid based on the FAFSA will be applied to the student's JMU account and applicable charges.

HEERF II Emergency Aid Appeal

Appeals must be submitted by the student, and will not be accepted if submitted by any other individual.

Appeal Form

1. Student Name: _____

2. Student ID: _____

3. Student JMU E-mail Address: _____

4. Have you already received an emergency aid award from a HEERF II Grant Act?

Yes

No

• If "Yes" was selected, you are not eligible to submit an appeal as you have already received funds.

5. Have you completed a 2020-21 FAFSA, as this is required to be considered for these funds?

Yes

No

If "No" was selected, you are not eligible to submit this appeal at this time. You can go to www.studentaid.gov and complete the 2020-21 FAFSA. Once the FAFSA is received by JMU you may submit an appeal. Appeals will not be considered before that time is completed.

6. Academic Standing (Select one):

Freshmen

- o Sophomore
- o Junior
- o Senior
- o Graduate Student
- o Doctoral Student

7. I am requesting funding from HEERF II to help cover the following expenses (Check applicable boxes):

- o Tuition
- o Books/Course Materials
- o Housing/rent
- o Food
- o Utilities
- o School related technology and/or supplies (e.g., internet, tutoring, computer issues, etc.)
- o Healthcare needs (e.g., medication, counseling, etc.)
- o Other (list reason): _____

8. Narrative:

- In detail, explain why you are requesting these funds.
- HEERF II funds CANNOT be awarded to replace lost income, so please do not submit an appeal based on this reason.
- HEERF II funds can only be awarded based on expenses associated with the Spring 2021 term. For example, if a lost job is creating challenges in paying for your rent, then you may explain this. In this situation, the focus is on paying for rent, and the lost job is creating challenges in doing so. However, if you submit an appeal that only states you lost a job, it will not be approved as we cannot approve

appeals to replace lost income. An appeal of this nature does not outline any specific expense you are challenged in meeting as a result of the job loss.

9. Requested Amount:

10. Requested Amount Detail:

- Requests that do not provide a specific dollar amount will **not** be considered
- Requests must explain how the dollar amount was calculated, or they will **not** be considered
- The maximum amount that can be requested is \$1000.

By submitting this appeal, I understand and agree to the following:

- The information reported on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- These funds do not need to be repaid.
- The submission of this request does not guarantee that I will receive funding.
- A limited amount of funding exists and the full amount requested may not be awarded.
- These funds will not be held and applied to your JMU charges.
- If the appeal is approved, students will receive these funds through the refund process established in the University Business Office.

If you have questions about setting up the refund process, please review the website at www.jmu.edu/ubo.

Award Notice

We're happy to report that your HEERF II Emergency Aid Appeal has been approved!

No additional action is required on your part for this [grant](#) to be awarded and processed by our office. You should be able to log into the Financial Aid section of your MyMadison account and see the award listed there.

The next step is for the funds to be disbursed to the University Business Office. We cannot tell you exactly when that will occur, but we can say that our goal is to get this money to students as quickly as possible.

You will receive a refund of this [grant](#) through the refund process you established in the University Business Office. This is the same process you have set up for all other refunds sent to you by that office. If you have questions about the refund process, please review the website at www.jmu.edu/ubo.

These funds will not be held and applied to any JMU charges. Once received, you may use the funds to assist with the designated expenses, including using them to make a payment to JMU for Spring 2021 [tuition](#) charges. These are grant awards, with no expectation of being repaid.

For additional information about this award and HEERF II funding, please visit the [JMU CRRSSA \(HEERF II\) Emergency Aid](#) website.