

American Rescue Plan (ARP) – Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III) Grants FAQs

Who is eligible for an ARP HEERF III Student Grants?

Student eligibility for the emergency student grants was determined by Susquehanna University based on guidance from the U.S. Department of Education. The ARP requires institutions to prioritize grants students with exceptional financial need, such as those who receive federal Pell Grants. Susquehanna is requiring recipients to be enrolled, full-time undergraduate students recipients from the 2020-21 academic year.

Additionally, you are not eligible for the ARP HEERF III Emergency Student Grant if:

- You were enrolled less than full-time, a master's student or a member of the teacher education certification program.
- You are a new student enrolling at Susquehanna in the fall semester of 2021.

Why am I receiving an emergency grant now but I haven't in the past?

Previous emergency student grant selection was based on the receipt of an eligible Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and your corresponding Expected Family Contribution (EFC). If you did not complete a FAFSA or were ineligible to complete the FAFSA then you would not have received previous emergency grants through the CARES Act (2020) and CRRSAA (2020-21)

Do I have to apply for the ARP HEERF III Student Grants?

No. Eligible enrolled students during the 20-21 academic year will receive emergency student aid grants without any application process. Eligible students received an email denoting their eligibility for the emergency grant on Monday, July 19.

What kind of expenses can I use this emergency grant for?

Funds can be used for tuition, food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and childcare that arose due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

How and when will I receive my ARP HEERF III Student Grants?

The funds will be released via direct deposit to the student's bank account on file with the payments available to students as early as Friday, July 23. Students that do not have direct deposit set up for financial aid are receiving the funds by check via the U.S. Postal Service (USPS). The checks will be sent to the address on file with the university and processing times may vary due to mail processing in your area.

What is the formula for determining the ARP HEERF III student grant amount?

EFC Cohort	ARP Grant Amount	Eligible Students	Grand Total ARP Grant	% of Total Allocation	% of Total Eligible Students
\$0 - \$1,000	\$3,000	333	\$999,000	35.0%	17.7%
\$1,001 - \$5,711	\$2,751	270	\$742,770	26.1%	14.4%
\$5,712 - \$12,000	\$1,275	275	\$350,625	12.3%	14.6%
\$12,001 - \$20,000	\$801	245	\$196,245	6.9%	13.0%
\$20,001 +	\$500	859	\$429,500	15.1%	45.7%
Domestic Non-FAFSA, Int'l, DACA (NEW)	\$500	265	\$132,500	4.6%	14.1%
Grand Total		2247	\$2,850,640	100.00%	100%

If I receive a grant and can I apply it to my outstanding balance, will the funds be applied to those charges?

Yes, but you (and/or your authorized user) will have to take the action and make the payment via MySU's Student Account Portal.

Will the ARP HEERF III emergency student grants impact my financial aid award at Susquehanna?

No. These funds do not impact your award package last year or any future financial aid awarded. Please note this is a one-time grant from the U.S. federal government.

Is Susquehanna reserving any ARP HEERF III emergency student grant funds for use later?

No. Susquehanna is disbursing all the funds associated with ARP HEERF III emergency student grant funds (totaling \$2,850,639) now to address the pressing financial needs of eligible students because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please note that Susquehanna is committed to assisting you now and in the future. The University has also created a Student Care Fund, supported by private donations. Please contact vpsl@susqu.edu for questions related to the Student Care Fund.

Do I have to repay an ARP HEERF III Student Grant?

No. These are emergency grant funds from the U.S. federal government and do not require repayment.

Do I need to report the ARP HEERF III emergency student grant on my federal tax return?

No. These one-time grants are qualified disaster relief payments under section 139 of the Internal Revenue Code. An ARP HEERF III emergency student grant should not be included in your gross income. Also, you cannot claim any deduction or credit for expenses paid with the grant. For more information, visit the [IRS website](#).