

## 2021-22 ARP

### HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND DISCLOSURE

(March 1st, 2021 to July 29th, 2023)

On May 11th, 2021, the US Department of Education released information to the higher education community that schools would be able to receive an allocation of funds from the ARP Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III) with instructions, policies and requirements to remain compliant, along with a required Proprietary Institution Certification form assuring that Gnomon will use all of the funds received to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

On July 27th, 2021, Gnomon submitted the signed Proprietary Institution Certification form and our additional \$162,886 allocation was made available to us in G5 on August 5th, 2021.

To the \$162,886, Gnomon's Financial Aid Office (FAO) added the entire 2021-22 FWS allocation (\$13,860; all work-study jobs were halted upon campus closure as of Noon on March 19th, 2020 and were not expected to resume upon returning to campus, possibly until Fall 2022) for a new total of \$176,746 to provide to students exclusively.

Guidance from the US Department of Education to the higher education community limited grant recipients to only students who certified that they 'had incurred additional expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus,' and indicating that those with exceptional need (Pell/FSEOG recipients) should be prioritized first during awarding. However, they lifted previous limitations excluding DACA or international students, and those with citizenship or Selective Service issues preventing them from receiving aid from the FAFSA.

The FAO used estimates from prior HEERF awards to begin awarding and identified 54 students who had already received a Pell or FSEOG grant in the Summer 2021 quarter to be the first priority group to receive a \$2,000 grant; \$108,000 (just over half of the overall fund) was set aside for this cohort.

Every program student was sent an email on September 4th, 2021, with a confirmation form giving them the option to forfeit the grant or accept the grant by certifying that they had incurred additional expenses during the pandemic. This same group were also asked to list anything specific that changed their per-usual expenditures, incurred fees, or other. The deadline to submit the form to the FAO was set for September 17th, 2021, the last weekday of the Summer quarter.

By September 14th, 2021, 72 students had responded (29 of them Pell/FSEOG recipients), and each of them was awarded and paid \$2,000. The credit balance refunds (total \$144,000) were sent via ACH or a mailed check on 9/17/2021.

On September 15th, 2021, another email was sent directly to the 25 remaining Pell recipients reminding them about the deadline.

By the deadline of September 17th, 2021, another 23 students had responded (12 of them Pell/FSEOG recipients). All 12 Pell/FSEOG recipients were awarded and paid \$2,000 on 9/21/2021. The remaining \$8,747 was divided evenly amongst the other 11 respondents (also awarded and paid on 9/21/2021), with one student receiving \$1 more than the others. The credit balance refunds (total \$32,746) were sent via ACH or mailed check on 9/24/2021.

While the grants were credited directly to the students' accounts in Gnomon's FAMS (Empower) on September 17th and 24th, the funds were not used to cover any school charges, tuition or other, on the account; and once the payment was delivered to the students' personal account (that each student confirmed), the effect was money in, money out.

# G N O M O N

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Since this was a reasonable response overall compared to CARES Act HEERF I in 2020, and CRRSAA HEERF II earlier in 2021, funds were not held back for future awards. Overall, 95 students were awarded, 41 of them were a Pell or FSEOG recipient.

**\$2,000 for 84 students (including all Pell/FSEOG recipients) = \$168,000**

**\$795 for 10 students = \$7,950**

**\$796 for 1 student = \$796**

**TOTAL: \$176,746**