

# Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) at Prince George's Community College (PGCC)

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This report has been updated with current information as of September 30, 2021.

HEERF assistance to students at Prince George's Community College (PGCC) includes the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARP), the 2021 Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), and the 2020 Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds. The total CARES Act funding was spent, as of December 30, 2020, and the CRRSAA funding was spent as of June 30, 2021.

## Overview

**2021 ARP:** The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), allocated to PGCC \$25,783,234 of which \$13,069,441 will be used for emergency aid to assist eligible students who are or were enrolled at PGCC during the COVID-19 national emergency. The U.S. Department of Education provided key expectations and requirements to institutions utilizing relief funds under the ARP. These funds are available to PGCC students, and do not require the completion of a FAFSA or Title IV eligibility and can be used for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, transportation, childcare, or health care (including mental health care). The ARP requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Federal Pell Grants or undergraduates with extraordinary financial circumstances.

**2021 CRRSAA:** The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), allocated to PGCC \$14,714,347 of which \$3,210,894 will be used for emergency student aid to assist eligible students with cost of attendance or emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus. The U.S. Department of Education provided guidance to the College on how to implement the CRRSAA Act, and to whom funds may be provided. These funds are prioritized for students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. Students do not have to be Pell Grant eligible to receive funding.

# EMERGENCY AID TO STUDENTS INFORMATION

1. On April 23, 2020, PGCC signed and returned to the Department of Education as the required Certification and Agreement with assurances that the College has used, or intends to use, no less than 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Act (2020 CARES ACT Funds) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible students. This Certification and Agreement also applies to the \$13,069,441 in student emergency aid provided with the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funding.

2. On May 12, 2021, PGCC received access to \$13,069,441 in ARP funds that can assist all students who are or were enrolled at PGCC during COVID-19 national emergency. A FAFSA is not required nor does a student have to be eligible for Title IV aid. Priority consideration should be given to Federal Pell Grant students and undergraduate students with exceptional need.

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA and ARP as of quarter ended September 30, 2021: \$5,811,894 (Total CRRSAA- \$3,210,894 and ARP \$2,601,000).

4. The estimated total number of students at PGCC that are eligible to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under CRRSSA and ARP for the quarter ended September 30, 2021: 34,975.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under the CRRSSA and ARP for the quarter ended September 30, 2021: 6,615

6. The following method(s) will be used by PGCC to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they receive under the CRRSAA and ARP.

## **Spring 2021**

- Enrolled in credit or continuing education courses in the Spring 2021 term
- Have a 2020-2021 FAFSA on file
- Priority consideration given to Federal Pell Grant students
- Non-Pell Grant eligible students with a FAFSA on file considered after Pell Grant students received assistance
- Students enrolled in continuing education courses completed a questionnaire to request assistance
- Each student received \$800

## **Fall 2021**

- Group 1: Enrolled in credit or continuing education courses in the Summer 2021 term and reengaged in Fall 2021 term
- Eligible students received \$1,000
- Group 2: Enrolled in credit or continuing education courses in Fall 2021
- Have a 2021-2022 FAFSA on file

- Priority consideration given to Federal Pell Grant students
  - Students will receive \$700
- All other students with confirmed enrollment will complete a questionnaire to request assistance. Federal Pell Grant students can request additional funding using the questionnaire.

7. The following guidance was provided to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

The College issues a grant to students and notification is sent to the student's PGCC email account confirming the payment has been sent using the student's refund selection process. If the student did not select a refund option or did not receive the PIN, the student is provided direct contact information to the Bursar's Office for assistance. If the student does not select a refund option, the college will issue a check to the student's address on record.