

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

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As of June 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.

## ARP Emergency Aid to Students Information (as of June 30, 2021)

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 ARP program as of quarter ending June 30, 2021: \$0.
4. The estimated total number of students at PGCC that are eligible to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under ARP as of June 30, 2021: 24,774.
5. 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 ARP:  
Methods currently under consideration.

## CRRSAA Emergency Aid to Students Information (as of June 30, 2021)

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 \$3,210,894 in student emergency aid provided with the 2021 CRRSAA funding.
2. On January 17, 2021 PGCC received access to \$3,210,894 in CRRSAA funds that can only be used for emergency student aid to assist eligible students with their cost of attendance or emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care.
3. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 of Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 or enrolled in certification and licensure programs and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the CRRSAA Act as of March 31: 7,119.
4. The total number of students who received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under CRRSAA as of June 30, 2021: 4,014.

5. PGCC used the following methods to determine which students qualified to receive an Emergency Financial Aid Grant payment.

**a.** The student's completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form with the information contained therein was used to determine if a student satisfied the eligibility criteria. Priority consideration was given to Pell Grant eligible students.

**b.** Upon a determination of eligibility described above, an award of an Emergency Financial Aid Grant will be conditioned on a student fulfilling the following criteria:

- Enrolled in credit courses in the Spring 2021 semester
- Have a 2020-2021 FAFSA on file with PGCC
- Eligible students meeting the above criteria will receive an \$800 payment

**c.** Students in a certification or licensure program and non-Pell Grant students with a FAFSA on file will be considered for funding after Pell Grant eligible students receive assistance. The payment amount will be \$800.

**d.** Payment of the CRRSAA emergency student aid grants can be viewed in Owl Link (Menu > Self Services > Financial Information > Financial Aid). An email will be sent to the student's PGCC email account directing the student to use Owl Link (Student Self Services) to see the payment. A check for the amount showing in Student Self Services will be mailed directly to the student's address of record.