



Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) FAQ

- ***What is a HEERF II Grant?***

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) signed into law on December 27, 2020, gave the U.S. Department of Education funds to distribute to institutions of higher education in order to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

The CRRSAA law has some similarities, as well as important differences, from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) enacted on March 27, 2020. Like the CARES Act, the CRRSAA Act provides grants to students, but an important difference is that students enrolled in exclusively distance education (100% online) courses will now be allowed to receive an award under the CRRSAA law. Because of this, significantly more students at LSUS will receive an award under CRRSAA.

Last year, LSUS distributed \$1.1 million in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to eligible students who experienced education disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, LSUS will award an additional \$1.2 million through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) to continue to support students who have an exceptional need due to COVID-19.

- ***Who is eligible to receive a HEERF II Grant?***

LSUS used the following eligibility guidelines to determine recipients:

- Students enrolled for the Spring 2021 semester through their respective census date
- Students with a complete financial aid file as of March 30, 2021 including a FAFSA and all additional requested documents, and who are eligible to receive Title IV aid
- Students who are considered an eligible citizen or non-citizen as determined by FAFSA
- Graduate and Undergraduate Degree Seeking Students, TeachLSUS Students, and Practical Nursing Students

- ***Who is ineligible to receive HEERF II grants?***

- Federal guidelines exclude undocumented and international students from receiving HEERF II funds
- Non-degree seeking students, including Dual Enrollment and Continuing Education Students (other than Practical Nursing Students)

- ***How may I use the funds?***

Students awarded a HEERF II Grant may use this award to pay for the following:

- Federal component of their cost of attendance
- Emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as:
 - Tuition
 - Food
 - Housing
 - Healthcare (including mental)
 - Childcare

This emergency financial aid grant does not have to be repaid. It is important to note that students may use the funds towards any unpaid balance at LSUS.

- ***Can students use HEERF II Grants to pay outstanding balances at LSUS?***

- Students who have a balance with LSUS will have the option to apply their HEERF II Grant towards charges. Details about this process will be communicated to students via email. Please note that if you have an outstanding balance you will be unable to register for classes.

- ***How and when will students receive HEERF II Grants?***

- Funds will be posted on myLSUS by April 13, 2021 and paid in the form of a direct deposit (if set up) or a paper check by US mail to your student mailing address on file in myLSUS. LSUS plans to issue payments during the week of April 19, 2021.

- ***How do I know if I have established direct deposit?***

- You can review and set up direct deposit information on myLSUS. This is the fastest way to receive funds.

- ***What if my mailing address on file is not correct?***

- You may update your address on the homepage on myLSUS. Paper checks will be mailed to this address.

- ***How much will students receive?***

- Amounts will vary based on Expected Family Contribution (EFC). We are currently determining the final award amounts.

- ***Does the HEERF II Grant have to be repaid?***

- No. These are emergency grant funds and do not need to be repaid.

- ***I know someone that goes to another school who received a different amount. Why is that?***
 - Each college/university received a different amount of funds from the US Department of Education and may have different selection criteria. Because each college/university received a different amount of money, different criteria and a different number of eligible students, grant amounts will vary.

- ***What if I have additional questions?***
 - Please email questions to: covidacademic@lsus.edu