

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARP), Pub. L. No. 117-2
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF III”)
Quarter 2 Report: April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021**

Simpson College is eligible to receive funds under Section 2003(a)(1) (CFDA 84.425E) of the American Rescue Plan Act signed by the President of the United States on March 11, 2021 (ARP, P.L. 117-2). This law appropriated funds for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) and represents the third stream of funding appropriated for HEERF to prevent and prepare for coronavirus.

Section 2003(7) of the ARP requires recipients to provide emergency financial aid grant to students in an amount equivalent to the sum of two amounts: 50 percent of the portion of its allocation from CRRSAA section 324(a)(1)(A)-(D) and 100 percent of the portion of its allocation from CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(E)-(F).

Under section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP recipients must make financial aid grants to students which may include students’ cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care, or childcare.

On May 20, 2021, Simpson College was notified that a supplemental award had been made in the amount of \$1,882,119.00 pursuant to section 2003(a)(1). Simpson College has complied with the requirements of the ARP Act, as follows:

- 1) By drawing down the awarded funds, Simpson College agreed to be bound to conditions set forth in the Supplemental Agreement.
- 2) Simpson College agreed to make financial aid grants to students, which may be used for any component of the students’ cost of attendance. Simpson College retained discretion to determine the amount and availability of each individual financial aid grant consistent with all applicable laws and agreed to prioritize students with exceptional need. Simpson College acknowledged that it may not distribute student grants in a manner that discriminates against individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or sex. Simpson College did not condition the receipt of financial aid grants on students’ continued or future enrollment at the institution and did not require students to consent to the application of the financial aid grants to outstanding account balances.
- 3) In the quarter covering the calendar period from April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021, Simpson College distributed a total of \$107,579.55 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act.
- 4) For ARP, round 1 grant packaging, 66 students at Simpson College were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act. This is due to the fact that we only packaged any unfunded CRRSAA applications for this first round of ARP packaging. Students were eligible to apply based on “exceptional need” as defined by Simpson College.

- 5) As of June 30, 2021, the total number of Simpson College students who received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act was 65.
- 6) Simpson College utilized the following method to determine which students would receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act.
 - a) For the first round of ARP funding, we funded the remaining applications we received for HEERF II, CRRSAA, that we were unable to fund due to exhausting all of our funds.
 - b) We had previously sent an email to all students who had not received the full \$1,904 in CRRSAA Grant funds AND had an expected family contribution of \$15,000 or below to solicit applications for the remaining CRRSAA Funds. Applications were due on May 14 and were reviewed on May 17 and 18. Again, students were required to tell us if they wanted a check mailed directly to them or if they wanted their funds to post to their student account to pay their balance.
 - c) Simpson College determined that we would define “extreme need” as students with an expected family contribution of \$15,000 or less to determine eligibility for application for funds.
 - d) After all CRRSAA funds were depleted, we still had 65 eligible applications, so we reviewed these application on June 1, 2021. A review committee (comprised of the Assistant Vice President of Enrollment and Financial Assistance, the Associate Director of Financial Aid and the Director of Foundation and Government Support Programs) evaluated each application to determine whether expenses reported by the student were allowable and the amount of the grant each student would receive, if any. All remaining applications were funded.
 - e) Following evaluation of the applications, ARP funds were disbursed to the appropriate student accounts the week of June 1 and checks were issued and mailed on June 8. Funds were passed through a new account that was initially created only for CARES Grant Funds. All disbursements were issued to students via a check payment or credit to the student account with the written request to do so, with instructions given to students at the time of check delivery.
- 7) All students enrolled at Simpson College as of March 25, 2021 who had an EFC of \$15,000 or below received email communication with instructions on how to apply for the CRRSAA Grants, which also became the ARP round 1 applications. The application for the CRRSAA/ARP Grants was made available in electronic form on the students’ campus portal. Students were informed by email regarding the outcome of their applications’ review, whether they received funds, and in which amount, if any.