

<https://post.edu/coronavirus/>

## **CARES Act – Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) and American Rescue Plan Act, 2021 (ARP)**

Note: Students who are experiencing financial hardship should contact their Financial Aid advisor to determine if additional financial assistance may be available to them based on their individual family circumstances.

[Read More](#)

On March 12, 2020, John L. Hopkins, CEO and President of Post University, announced that instruction at the Main Campus would transition to online learning through the end of the semester. To ensure the safety of all students, faculty, and staff, classes at the Main Campus continued online for the Spring Semester beginning March 16, 2020. The virtual platform ensures that students can complete the courses they need to meet their academic goals and graduate within their original time frames. With over 13,000 online students, Post University is a leader in the online mode of delivery. Technology and student support services are in place and made the transition of the Main Campus students to online education a seamless operation.

Congress passed the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* (CARES) Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) providing funding to institutions to deliver emergency financial aid grants to eligible students who incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. On December 27, 2020 new assistance funding, Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF II) was authorized through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA). On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) authorized Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Acknowledgement of Certification and Agreement and Funding*

Post University signed the Certification Agreement in the grant application package for the Higher Education Emergency Relief funding (HEERF) for students on April 27, 2020. Through the CARES Act, Congress allocated \$1,419,702 funding to Post University.

Post University signed the Certification Agreement in the grant application package for the Higher Education Emergency Relief funding (HEERF II) for students on January 15, 2021. Post University received \$1,393,742 from the

Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

*Distribution - HEERF*

Under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, 100% of the HEERF funds have been disbursed to students. As required by the Department of Education, at least 50% or \$709,851 of the allocation has been distributed directly to students in the form of student grants. Post University expended the Institutional portion, to students for the unused portion of room and board in the form of refunds directly to the students. The distribution of funds directly to students was done in accordance with the requirements published by the US Department of Education. The emergency financial aid grants directly to students were awarded to eligible students enrolled in at least one Main Campus course as of the date campus-based courses ended and the facilities were closed to in-person classes. The total number of eligible students who participated in Title IV HEA programs and who attended on-ground courses at Post University is estimated at 631 students. These eligible students were enrolled in at least one course held in-person, and not exclusively online, and all have received the CARES Act grant.

In accordance with the requirements published by the US Department of Education for student eligibility, Post University identified all students enrolled in on-campus classes and established the criteria based on their housing status, including the distance to return home from campus, and their financial need as determined by their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

For HEERF funds, a student enrolled in classes offered exclusively online were not eligible for an emergency HEERF grant. Students who met the criteria were awarded a range of grant funding based on their financial need, campus housing arrangement, and permanent residence proximity to campus. The award per student ranged from \$615 to \$3,035. Post University awarded these funds to all eligible students without requiring an application or other formal request. Each eligible student was notified that the funding was available and provided the instructions to select their preferred method of delivery.

For more information regarding HEERF eligibility, please visit our FAQ's below.

This reporting covers all remaining HEERF fund expenditures as Post University has fully spent the funds as of July 10, 2020. No further reporting of HEERF funding is required.

*Distribution – HEERFII*

As of the date of the report, the total amount of HEERF II and HEERF III funds distributed to students is \$1,326,195. The University is in the process of reviewing student eligibility to distribute any remaining funding. The estimated total number of students eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs is 5,889. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs is 5,852 students. The University is currently reviewing the eligibility of the remaining students. Post University's method used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs is to prioritize students with exceptional need based on the results of the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Student's whose Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) reflect a Zero (0) Effective Family Contribution (EFC) are eligible for review. If all HEERF II funds are not expended, awards will be made available to students with EFCs higher than Zero (0). Post University will award these funds to all eligible students without requiring an application or other formal request.