

CRRSA Act and ARP Act: Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds II and III for Students Report

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) has signed and returned to the Department the Certifications and Agreements. UNMC assures that the institution has used, or intends to use, the same amount in emergency financial aid grants to students that it was required to provide under its original CARES Act Student Aid Portion award.

UNMC has received \$2,311,330 from the U.S. Department of Education for emergency financial aid grants to students pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSA Act and the ARP Act.

UNMC has distributed \$639,752.63 of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 870 students under the CRRSA Act and ARP Act as of September 30, 2021.

UNMC estimates a total of 4200 students are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Based on the criteria in the CRRSA Act, these are the students eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants for emergency expenses tied to COVID-19 interruptions under the CARES Act.

The method to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the CRRSA Act was as follows: UNMC awarded block grants to students based upon exceptional need as demonstrated by their 2020-2021 EFC. Students must have been enrolled at least half-time to be eligible for the block grant. All Pell eligible students received a \$1,000 award, the non-Pell eligible undergraduate students with an EFC <\$12,500 received a \$700 award, and graduate and professional students with the lowest EFC who were not automatically awarded a CARES Act Emergency Grant previously received a \$650 block grant. Remaining funds have been set aside for students applying through the UNMC Office of Financial Aid for emergency assistance.

The method for distribution of block grants from the ARP Act remains under consideration by university leadership at this time.

Requesting Consideration for Funding through Emergency Assistance

To apply for funding through the UNMC CRRSA/ARP Act Emergency Assistance Application process, use your UNMC email address and submit the following information with a subject line noting “CRRSA/ARP Act Funding Request” to finaid@unmc.edu for review by the committee:

- Description of the financial hardship you have experienced directly related to COVID-19, including specific dollar amounts for which you are seeking assistance.
- Necessary documentation should be attached separately to your email.

Additional guidance for UNMC students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants:

This emergency grant is being awarded to help you with educationally related expenses due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Please use this emergency grant for eligible expenses under the cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care (including mental health), childcare and travel/transportation.

Please note, the full emergency grant will be refunded directly to you. If you are enrolled in direct deposit for refunds, you will receive your refund in 5 to 7 business days. It generally takes 7 to 10 business days for you to receive your refund payment by mail.