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U.S. Department of Education Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Report: HEERF II & III – Period Ending Sept. 30, 2021 Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Section 314(d)(5) of CRRSAA requires that an institution receiving funding under section 314(a)(1) provide the same amount in financial aid grants to students from the new CRRSAA funds that it was required to provide under its original Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Student Aid Portion award. The ARP, with some changes, is a continuation of the CRRSAA programs. Under the ARP (a)(1) program, as authorized under section 2003 of the ARP, the amount each institution must use for financial aid grants to students is determined by calculating the sum of 50 percent of the amount each institution receives under the formula factors in CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(A)-(D); and 100 percent of the amount received under the formula factors in CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(E)-(F). Student award amounts for both the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs are identified for each institution in their respective allocation table. Under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs, student portion funds must be used to provide financial aid grants to students (including students exclusively enrolled in distance education) which may be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, **travel**, health care (including mental health care), or child care. In making financial aid grants to students, an institution of higher education must prioritize grants to students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants.

Reporting for the seven enumerated criteria posted by the Office of Postsecondary Education is as follows:

- 1. Molloy College signed the Certification and Agreement on <u>April 14, 2020</u> and returned to the U.S. Department of Education on <u>April 15, 2020</u> for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students, under CARES Act, for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. The Certification and Agreement has been updated to include the applicable amount of funds designated under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.
- Molloy College will receive or has received <u>\$5,824,961</u> from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.
- 3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs as of the initial report June 30, 2021 is **\$2,064,944.**
- 4. It is estimated that <u>4,043</u> students at Molloy College are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.
- 5. To date, **1,805** students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant as provided under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.
- 6. Molloy College implemented a tier awarding methodology 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. The basis of this determination is in accordance with the U.S. Department of Education recommendation of providing emergency grants to students with the greatest financial need. Pell eligible current students who may be most vulnerable to the COVID-19 pandemic are first priority, followed by the non-Pell eligible undergraduate and graduate students, who complete an application, attesting to allowable expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus.
- 7. Instructions, directions, and guidance concerning the availability of Emergency Financial Aid Grants for students provided via Molloy College's Coronavirus Information and Status webpage (Students tab), as well as coronavirus informational emails notifying students to access an online Covid Relief application though Lion's Den (My Finances tab) or by contacting the Student Solutions Center.