

Peru State College CARES Act June 30, 2021, Fund Report

In December 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021, a massive package of legislation that included fiscal year 2021 funding and additional pandemic relief, was signed into law. Included in the FY 2021 omnibus was the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, which provided \$22.7 billion to the HEERF established in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Funds under the CRRSA Act are commonly referred to as HEERF II grant funds.

Peru State College (PSC) has begun distribution of HEERF II grant funds. Specifically, these funds may be used for “emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and childcare).”

For HEERF II funds, PSC’s goal is to prioritize assistance to students with the greatest financial need, in accordance with federal guidelines. PSC chose to communicate to students enrolled in the Spring 2021 semester about the opportunity to apply for financial assistance through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II). This communication, sent via e-mail encouraged students to complete an application in their on-line student account.

The applications were reviewed to assure they met federal qualifications to receive funding. Points were distributed based on FAFSA information, application data, and those with the greatest financial impact and need. Amounts of the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students were determined using defined parameters and based on student’s application responses.

1. PSC was allocated \$413,672 in HEERF II funds under CRRSAA section 314(a)(1) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. As of June 30, 2021, PSC has distributed the entire \$413,672 in HEERF II grant funds to students.
3. There are approximately 747 students at PSC who are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in the Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under HEERF II.
4. As of June 30, 2021, 251 PSC students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under HEERF II.
5. Grant recipients were selected based on the criteria outlined above.
6. Funding recipients received the following email once their application was approved for HEERF II funding.

Thank you for your application to receive financial assistance under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

You have been approved for \$X.

In the coming days, this award will be processed. Please contact the One Stop Office at (402) 872-2228 if you have any questions or concerns about this award.

Please note that you may be eligible to apply again at a later date.