Overview

Minnesota State University Moorhead was approved to receive $1,759,267 through the Federal CARES Act, $1,759,267 through the Federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and $5,187,282 through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). These three programs comprise the basis of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF). Minnesota State University Moorhead has completed a Certification and Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education which, among other requirements, assures that no less than 50 percent of these funds will be used to provide direct Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students impacted by the coronavirus and subsequent declaration of a National Emergency.

Distribution

In the fourth quarter ending on December, 2021, Minnesota State University Moorhead distributed $4,986,500 of ARP and CRRSAA student share funding to 2,706 students through direct Emergency Financial Aid grants to students.

Since January 2021, the distribution of relief funding through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF), Minnesota State University Moorhead has awarded Emergency Financial Aid Grants totaling $6,779,046 to 3,735 students.

Eligibility

Both CRRSAA and ARP require that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants or undergraduates with extraordinary financial circumstances, in awarding emergency financial aid grants to students. While all students enrolled after March 13, 2020 are eligible, priority will be given to students based on current guidance from the U.S. Department of Education who have emergency financial needs related to the pandemic.

Since January 1, 2021, Minnesota State University Moorhead enrolled approximately 7,220 students who were eventually determined to be eligible for HEERF funding.

Process

Funds for this quarter were from a portion of the funding that was retained for distribution through the Student Emergency Assistance Fund process. Eligible students who had additional expenses such as
food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care are able to complete a brief application. Most often, these emergency funds are disbursed directly to the student. Applications are reviewed on a weekly basis until funds are expended.

In addition, ARP funds were expended in block grants to students during this quarter. Block grants were distributed to students eligible for Title IV aid based on the guidance of prioritizing domestic undergraduate students with exceptional need.

Domestic undergraduate and graduate students with an EFC of up to $30,000 were awarded block grants that took into consideration EFC and credit load.