

CRRSA Act Reporting (HEERF III)  
Quarterly Reporting for December 31, 2021

Certification

Illinois State University has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and intends to use all of funds allocated for Emergency Financial Aid Grants received under the CRRSA Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Funds Distributed and Student Eligibility

As of December 31, 2021, Illinois State University received \$22,062,690 of Emergency Financial Aid funds under the CRRSA Act (HEERF III) and has distributed \$18,288,750 of federal funds in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 11,496 students during the third quarter (October 1 – December 31). Illinois State University has an estimated 20,233 students eligible to participate in programs under the CRRSA Act.

Method Used to Determine Student Eligibility (Fall 2022)

Illinois State University prioritized funds to students with extenuating financial need based on the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Assistance. Block grants were awarded to students enrolled in the fall 2022 term. Awarding criteria was as follows:

EFC 0-6,000:	\$2,250 grant
EFC 6,001-10,000	\$1,500 grant
EFC 10,001-15,000	\$1,000 grant
EFC 15,001-30,000	\$500 grant

Eligible students that experienced extenuating financial hardship and did not meet the block grant selection criteria could submit an application to the Financial Aid Office for committee review and consideration of grant funds. Students that met the block grant criteria but still had extenuating financial need could also submit an application to the Financial Aid office for committee review and consideration of grant funds. The maximum amount a student can receive within an academic year is \$6,000. Funds were distributed directly to students unless students provided consent to apply funds to outstanding balance.

## Notification to Students

The institution issued a letter to recipients including information about the grant, how to view the amount of their grant, how the funds are disbursed, and a video from the university president about the awarding of the emergency funds and how to use the funds. The video explained how the university identified eligible students and that students could contact the Financial Aid Office if they were experiencing extenuating hardship. The institutional video was also posted to the Illinois State University YouTube page.

In addition to the letter and video, information regarding emergency grants is available to all students on the Illinois State University Student Emergency Grant Funds web page.

The Financial Aid Office also conducted phone outreach to students with outstanding balances, sent out communication about the change in financial situation process and posted the information online at <https://financialaid.illinoisstate.edu/process/changes/>.