

Coronavirus Response & American Rescue Plan ARP:

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III) Information

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alaska Career College received \$284,170.00 in HEERF III funds to distribute to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance such as food, housing, utilities, course materials, technology (including internet), transportation, health care, and daycare).

Stage 1 of the HEERF III grants is to be awarded to students actively enrolled as of November 3, 2021. Students can use this grant for any component of their cost of attendance or emergency costs due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, technology, healthcare, or daycare.

Students who were not financially impacted by COVID-19 may decline the HEERF III grant so that the funds become available to help other students.

Stage 2 of the HEERF III grants is to be awarded to students who were active between July 7, 2021 and November 2, 2021 and have either graduated or withdrawn by November 3, 2021. The eligible students may apply by submitting a HEERF III Grant Request Application. We will use the application to determine the grant award amount for each individual student. These grants will provide direct financial support to students impacted by the coronavirus. Students can use this grant for any component of their cost of attendance or emergency costs due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, technology, healthcare, or daycare.

Stage 3 - Emergency Grants paid by HEERF III grants are to be awarded to actively enrolled students (as of November 3, 2021) who have exceptional need due to being impacted by the coronavirus. These awards are determined by Alaska Career College at the time of the request. Students who are experiencing dire financial hardships are encouraged to reach out to Monica Matlock, Financial Aid Director, to request additional support beyond Stage 1. The student may be required to provide proof of hardship. These grants will provide direct financial support to students impacted by the coronavirus. Students can use this grant for any component of their cost of attendance or emergency costs due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, technology, healthcare, or daycare.

HEERF II	Original Budget	Number of Students	Expended amount	Date Expended	Remaining Amount
QUARTER 4 - Updated January 7, 2022					
Stage 1 - Active Grant Disbursement	\$800 Award	256 & 2	\$204,800 & \$1600	11/18/2021 & 12/8/2021	\$77,770
Stage 2 – Inactive Grant Disbursement	\$500 Award	137	\$68,500	12/8/2021	\$9,270
Stage 3 - Emergency Grant Disbursements	Varied	30	\$9,720	12/29/21	-\$450.00 *ACC covered \$450 transposition error

STAGE 1 Eligibility Requirements

- Student must be US citizen or eligible noncitizen.
- Student must be currently enrolled at Alaska Career College at the time of the award (November 3, 2021).

Students who meet the above criteria will receive an automatic \$800 HEERF III grant payment. Instructions will be sent via the student's ACC e-mail on picking up the grant check at the ACC Campus. If a student cannot pick up the check, then they will need to notify ACC of their correct mailing address.

STAGE 1 Award Summary

On November 18, 2021 \$204,800 will be awarded to an estimated 256 Alaska Career College students. Students were automatically awarded if they are currently enrolled as of November 3, 2021.

Students who are active will receive an automatic award and also have exceptional need due to hardship, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, are encouraged to apply for funding as part of the Stage 3 awarding process.

STAGE 2 Eligibility Requirements

- Eligible to be awarded to students who were active between July 7, 2021 and November 2, 2021 and have either graduated or withdrawn by November 3, 2021.
- Student must complete a HEERF III application.
- Student must be US citizen or eligible noncitizen.

Students who meet the above criteria will be evaluated for a HEERF III grant payment. If approved, the HEERF III grant payment amount would be \$500. Email instructions will be sent on picking up the grant check at the ACC Campus. If a student cannot pick up the check, then they will need to notify ACC of their correct mailing address.

STAGE 3 Emergency Grant Eligibility Requirements

Students will be awarded based on demonstration of dire financial hardship due to the coronavirus. Students must email Monica Matlock, monica.matlock@alaskacareercollege.edu, for consideration. These grants will range based on financial need.

HEERF II FAQ

What documentation is required to be submitted with the application?

This will depend on the individual request. You should provide any documentation that is relevant to the specific financial need and hardship you experienced. Consider submitting copies of bills/paid invoices/receipts or official notifications.

Will receiving this emergency grant reduce my financial aid?

No, this fund does not negate nor replace financial aid, and it is a one-time grant.

How much emergency grant funding can I receive?

Emergency Grant funding will be determined on a case-by-case basis and relative to available funding at the time of the request. Students will be notified of the exact amount via email from the Business Office.

When can I expect to receive the funds once I submit my request?

Requests for HEERF III grants will be reviewed following the posted deadline. Once your request is reviewed you will be notified via your ACC student e-mail regarding approval or denial from the Business Office. The email will include instructions for picking up your paper check.

Will the funding be applied against an existing balance owed to Alaska Career College?

No. The grant will be paid directly to you. It will disburse to you as a cash grant without regard to any balance owed to the college. You will receive paper check. If you choose, you may use the funds to pay towards your tuition.

Other Considerations

Amounts received are not taxable to the student and will not be reported on the students 1098T according to guidance published by the IRS.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Please contact Monica Matlock, Director of Financial Aid at monica.matlock@alaskacareercollege.edu

How did Alaska Career College develop the eligibility criteria?

Alaska Career College is following [guidance from the U.S. Department of Education](#).