

Supplemental Report on the CARES/CRRSSA/ARP Acts Grant Funding Received by Prescott College for student grants through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

Report Date: 1/9/2022 (for reporting period 10/1/2021 – 12/31/2021)

1. Prescott College acknowledges that on **April 21, 2020** it signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide emergency relief grants to students. This amounted to \$150,649, which is now fully spent.

This assurance continues with the funds now provided to Prescott College through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (**CRRSAA**) Act and the American Rescue Plan (**ARP**) Act. These Acts required the following to be spent on student emergency relief grants:

- CRRSAA Act: \$150,649 of \$589,574 in (a) (1) funds provided to the college (26%). This represents the same amount of funding in financial aid grants to students that it was required to be provided to students in the original Student Aid Portion of the CARES Act Section 18004(a)(1) allocation.
 - ARP Act: \$577,268 of \$1,080,517 in (a)(1) funds provided to the college (53%) is required to be spent on emergency relief grants. The College is still in the process of spending these funds.
2. As outlined above, Prescott College has received or will receive a total of **\$878,566** from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students via the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

This includes an initial allocation of \$150,659 authorized through The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (**CARES**) Act signed on March 27, 2020 and another \$150,659 authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (**CRRSAA**) Act of 2021 signed on December 27, 2020, and \$577,268 from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act signed on March 11, 2021.

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students **as of 12/31/2021** under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, CRRSAA Act, and ARP Act is **\$741,924**.

Prior reports:

\$ 67,438 as of 5/22/2020

\$ 75,913 as of 7/6/2020 (\$8465 since previous report)

\$ 100,130 as of 10/10/2020 (\$24,217 since previous report)

\$ 107,975 as of 1/10/2021 (\$7,845 since previous report)

\$ 295,863 as of 3/31/2021 (\$187,888 since previous report)*

*Initial CARES allocation depleted, and CRRSAA allocations began.

\$ 299,338 as of 6/30/2021 (\$3475 since previous report)

\$ 709,648 as of 9/30/2021 (\$410,310 since previous report)**

** CRRSAA allocation depleted, and ARP allocations began

\$ 741,924 as of 12/31/2021 (\$32,276 since previous report)

4. The estimated total number of students during the grant period at the institution eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 [i.e. **FAFSA-eligible students**] and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act: **1625**
 - # of FAFSA-eligible student students enrolled in spring 2020 term in campus-based programs which converted to on-line instruction: **254**

Total estimated **number of students who are enrolled or have been enrolled since March 2020** who are now eligible to receive funding under either the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSAA) Act or the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act: **2011**

5. The total number of students as of 12/31/2021 who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, CRRSAA Act, or ARP Act: **672**

Prior reports:

165 as of 5/22/2020

173 as of 7/6/2020 (8 additional since previous report)

181 as of 10/1/2020 (8 additional since previous report)

187 as of 1/10/2021 (6 additional since previous report)

624 as of 3/30/2021 (437 additional since previous report)*

*Initial CARES allocation depleted, and CRRSAA allocations began.

624 as of 6/30/2021 (0 additional since previous report)

665 as of 9/30/2021 (41 additional since previous report)**

*CRRSAA allocation depleted, and ARP allocations began.

672 as of 12/31/2021 (7 additional since previous report)

6. The following methods have been or are being used by the institution to determine which students will receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they each will receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, CRRSAA Act, and ARP Act.

- i. **Emergency Relief Grant Applications:** Initially, any student enrolled in ground-based courses on March 13th, 2020 was invited to apply for CARES Act emergency relief grant funding via our [Emergency Relief Grant Application](#), posted on our main website page for COVID related news: [covid.prescott.edu](https://www.prescott.edu/covid) (which is a prominent link on prescott.edu homepage). This application requested students to describe the expenses they incurred due to the disruption of campus operations due to Coronavirus.

Later, with the passage of the CRRSAA act, all FAFSA-eligible students were invited to apply, regardless of instruction delivery model (on-campus or on-line).

With the passage of the ARP act, the restriction to FAFSA-eligible students was lifted, which opened the availability of this grant to any student who attended since the pandemic began on March 13, 2020.

Students were encouraged to upload supporting documentation with their request, though supporting documentation was not required. Grant applications were reviewed regularly by a committee throughout 2021 and additional grants were allocated on a rolling basis until the majority of grant funds were exhausted.

Of the grant applicants, priority was given to students in extreme financial circumstances who have been both affected by COVID and who are unable to meet the expenses within their cost of attendance in another fashion including through the use of available federal aid. Priority is also given to students who were not already in these circumstances prior to choosing to attend Prescott College, and later on in the grant cycle, priority was also given in terms of amount of grant funding to students supporting dependents.

The application for Emergency Relief Grants was removed from the Prescott College website beginning with the Spring 2022 term. The remaining student emergency relief grant funds not yet allocated will be disbursed to students in early Spring 2022 based on a sliding scale determined using the EFC from the FAFSA as well as unmet need remaining within each student's Cost of Attendance, need not met by other financial aid.

- ii. **Student Union Board (SUB) grants:** The Student Union Board (SUB) offered Emergency Relief Grants for on-campus students needing financial assistance shortly after on-campus courses converted to on-line in Spring 2020. The SUB grant applications were reviewed to determine those whom applied due to expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to Coronavirus. Grants given to those who had such eligible expenses were initially funded by SUB, but SUB was later reimbursed via money from the CARES grant.
- iii. **Initial institutional CARES grants:** It was determined that all on-campus undergraduate students who were enrolled on March 13th, 2020 (the day the national emergency was declared) likely incurred some eligible expenses including food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care due to the disruption of campus operations due to Coronavirus, and that it was reasonable to assume these expenses likely ranged from at least \$200 to \$750 per person. These disruptions included the conversion of on-campus classes to on-line, the closing for campus and all associated services except for essential operations, and the request for on-campus students to move off-campus or back home if possible. It was determined that students with the highest financial need likely had the fewest outside resources available to help with these expenses, and thus a sliding scale was used to determine initial grant amounts based on the following criteria:
- Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by the FAFSA
 - Unmet Financial Need – i.e. Cost of Attendance minus the student’s EFC, not previously covered by other financial aid.

Initial grant amounts ranging from \$200 to \$750 were determined using these sliding scales, and disbursed to students already enrolled in either summer 2020 or fall 2020 coursework. As students enrolled for either summer 2020, fall 2020, or spring 2021 courses, additional grants were disbursed.

- iv. **Subsequent institutional block grants:** Through review of the CARES/CRRSAA/ARP Emergency Relief Grant Applications previously mentioned, groups of students who are in similar circumstances to those who had applied for additional assistance were identified. Some grants were then issued to these additional students based on the average expenses testified by others in these similar circumstances.
- v. **On-Campus Student technology grants:** Additional grants of \$215 each were awarded to On-Campus undergraduate students who enrolled in Spring 2021 term. The intent of this additional grant was to assist with additional technology and internet costs needed to sustain on-line learning necessary due to Coronavirus during the Spring term. This was due to most courses still being delivered at least partially on-line to our on-campus student population.

- vi. **Initial Institutional CRRSAA Grants to On-Line students:** When funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) became available in early spring (an additional \$150,649 on top of the original \$150,649 from the CARES Act), which opened up the possibility of funds for on-line students who were not previously eligible for CARES HEERF funding, the college decided to allot a large portion of the HEERF II CRRSAA funds to this population of students, including undergraduate and graduate students. \$125,525 was reserved for this purpose and these funds were divided into grants ranging from \$275 to \$700 for assistance with expenses related to Coronavirus that fit within the student's cost of attendance. Grant amounts varied based on the student's EFC from their most recently filed FAFSA as well as their enrollment level.
 - vii. **Initial Institutional ARP Grants:** With the passage of the American Rescue Plan in March 2021, the funds for which became available in May 2021, Prescott College again went through a review process to identify additional students with a high financial need, including students who previously received grants, but were determined to have additional needs since receiving their previous grant(s). Criteria used to determine need in this round of allocations included Estimated Family Contribution from the FAFSA and/or unpaid past due balances.
7. Students are issued a letter with instructions / directions / guidance by Prescott College concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants, along with a revised financial aid award letter for each award year in which the student received funding. This guidance was delivered to each student who received a grant by the financial aid office via e-mail to the student's student.prescott.edu e-mail address and/or the e-mail address on the student's FAFSA. Parents of dependent students are also sent a copy of the same e-mail to the parent e-mail address on the student's FAFSA. Below is a sample of the most recent round of letters which students received.



Prescott College

Financial Aid Office

Date

Dear:

Under the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Prescott College is pleased to provide a one-time Higher Education Emergency Relief grant to you in the amount of **\$xxx**. This grant will be disbursed to you in the near future, and [may be applied to your past or current tuition balance](#) if you choose.

Please complete [this consent form](#) **within the next 7 days** to have this grant applied to your student account balance. **This may help you avoid collections activity** if you have a past due balance from either a previous term or the current term. Should you complete the consent form, we will apply your grant to your oldest balance due first.

For example, if you have a \$500 past due balance -- \$300 from Spring 2021 and \$200 from Fall 2021, and your grant is for \$400, then \$300 will be applied to Spring 2021 which will clear that balance due, and the remaining \$100 would be applied to Fall 2021. You would then need to still pay your remaining balance due of \$100 for Fall 2021.

If you choose not to complete the consent form, your grant will be refunded to you in about two weeks. Should you wish to receive your grant prior to this time, and you do NOT want it applied to your current or previous balance due, please e-mail the financial aid office at finaid@prescott.edu to request your refund to be expedited. In this case, you will then still need to pay your current or past balance due another way such as via a payment through the My Academic Services portal. To make a payment, login through academics.prescott.edu, then click on the "Finances" tab to get started.

Please check your current balance due for all terms via My Academic Services. To do so, from a desktop computer, login to academics.prescott.edu, then click on the "Finances" tab, then "Balance" in the drop down. Once on the balance page, your balance for the most recent term will display. **To see prior term balances, select each prior term from the "Options/Period" menu on the right side.** If your combined balance(s) due from all terms are higher than your grant, you will still need to pay your remaining balance due, even if you fill out the [consent form](#) to have your grant reduce your balance due. Please contact that student accounts office at (928) 350-4000 or e-mail studentaccounts@prescott.edu if you have questions about your balance due and/or if you have trouble accessing your account.

In all cases, in accordance with federal requirements, the Emergency Relief grant is being awarded to you to help offset expenses you may have incurred or expect to incur related to the Coronavirus or for costs associated with your attendance in school. Examples include tuition and fees, as well as other indirect costs such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care.

Your particular grant was likely awarded as a result of one of the following two initiatives:

- **Grants awarded through appeal:** You may have petitioned for assistance based on individual expenses you have been unable to cover within your cost of attendance and/or COVID related circumstances or expenses that you experienced.
- **High need student possibly in danger of being sent to collections:** You may have been identified as a high-need student who may be facing financial difficulty because of economic strain related to Coronavirus. Students were identified through a combination of factors including their estimated family contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA and/or a past due tuition balance due to Prescott College since the national

emergency began. Our hope is that this grant may assist you to avoid possible tuition collection activity or other potential negative consequences of being unable to cover your balance due. To make this easy for you, please complete this [consent form](#) to have your Emergency Relief grant applied to your student tuition and fees account as described above.

More about Prescott College's Higher Education Emergency Relief (HEERF) Grants:

Your grant was made possible through the HEERF Grant allocated to Prescott College through congress via the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act (passed in Spring 2020), the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSAA) Act (passed in December 2020), and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) (recently passed in Spring 2021). In total, Prescott College received \$878,566 from these three congressional acts specifically designated for student Emergency Relief grants. If you would like to learn more about how Prescott College has allocated these grants to students, please visit our [COVID-19 Updates website at covid.prescott.edu](#).

Please know that we are thinking of you and hope that you are safe and well. If you have any additional questions regarding your Higher Education Emergency Relief Grant, you are welcome to schedule an appointment with a financial aid counselor or with me [via calendly.com/pcfinaid](#).

Sincerely,

Bee

Bee Sena
Financial Aid Director