Quarterly report for the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

April 10, 2022: Quarterly Report Covering Expenditures January 1 to March 31, 2022

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) enacted by Congress on December 27, 2020 and March 11, 2021 provide institutions of higher education a two-part allocation. Funds from the student-portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) provide direct grant aid to eligible students whose education at MPCC was impacted by the coronavirus.

In compliance with CRRSAA and ARPA reporting requirements, MPCC is reporting the use of funds distributed from the HEERF.

- 1. On January 19, 2021, and May 13, 2021, MPCC signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreements and assurances the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under the CRRSAA section 314 (a)(1) and ARPA programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
- 2. MPCC received \$387,473 on January 19, 2021 and \$1,519,446 on May 13, 2021 from the U.S. Department of Education totaling \$1,906,919 pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreements [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.
- 3. Between January 1 and March 31, 2022, MPCC awarded **\$244,050** of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible students under Section (a)(1) of the awarded ARPA program.
- 4. A total of **5351** enrolled students at MPCC were eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSAA and ARPA programs during January 1 to March 31, 2022.
- 5. Between January 1 and March 31, 2022, **315** students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 314(a)(1) of the ARPA program.
- 6. MPCC used the following method to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they receive under Section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSAA and ARPA programs.
 - a. Disbursement of ARPA Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students issued from January 1 to March 31, 2022 occurred first through automatic payments and second through supplemental applications.
 - b. Students eligible to receive funding from automatic disbursement of remaining ARPA Emergency Financial Aid Grants were enrolled at MPCC during the Spring 2022 semester.
 - c. Students eligible to receive funding through the provided online Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students application process were enrolled at MPCC any point after March 13, 2020 through the Spring 2022 semester. International students and students enrolled in only online courses that submitted applications

- to receive supplemental Emergency Financial Aid funding were considered eligible to receive assistance.
- d. ARPA Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students were distributed through automatic transmission and weighted towards Pell eligibility and enrollment status. Automatic disbursements issued through March 31, 2022 were issued on the following maximum payment schedule based on a combination Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) submission and enrollment status:
 - i. \$1500 per full-time student with a FAFSA application on file
 - ii. \$750 per less than full-time student with a FAFSA application on file
 - iii. \$1200 per full-time student with no FAFSA application on file
 - iv. \$600 per less than full-time student with no FAFSA application on file
- e. ARPA Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students with exceptional need were distributed through a supplemental application process. Students completed and submitted the Application for Stabilization Funds available on the MPCC website and provided an explanation generalizing the educational hardships incurred as a result of COVID-19.
- f. Applications were reviewed to ensure student applicants met funding eligibility requirements, documented costs incurred after March 13, 2020, and requested funds are related to campus closures as stipulated.
- g. Qualified student applicants received additional funding disbursements based on the number of enrolled credit hours. Disbursements issued through March 31, 2022 were issued on the following maximum payment schedule:
 - i. \$600 per full-time student
 - ii. \$450 per ³/₄ student
 - iii. \$300 per ½ student
 - iv. \$150 per part-time student
- 7. The MPCC institutional website

(http://www.mpcc.edu/about/coronavirus_information.php) maintains current information on eligibility guidelines for HEERF Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students issued through federal stabilization funding. The MPCC Director of Accounting issued a written letter that was distributed via email and with distributed checks to notify recipients of their assistance funding. Applications selected to receive a second disbursement of emergency funds also received a letter of guidance for funding distribution. *Please see posted distribution documents.



April 22, 2021

Re: CRRSAA Stabilization Grant Funds Distribution

Dear Student of Mid-Plains Community College:

Mid-Plains Community College received additional Federal student assistance dollars in January, 2021 resulting from continued financial hardship as a result of COVID-19 disruptions. Institutionally we have approved student distributions ranging from \$50-\$600, based upon student financial aid eligibility and enrollment status.

The enclosed payment is being made to you as an individual. Therefore, though you will see this distribution applied/disbursed on your student account statement, it will not be included in 1098-T grants or payment for the 2021 year. In addition, the Federal Government/IRS has determined such distributions are tax exempt at this time. We recommend retaining this letter with your check stub for your tax records.

Lastly, please continue to be alert to campus notices or student messages in regards to additional funding that may remain available.

Questions:

Financial Aid @ <u>browne@mpcc.edu</u> or (308) 535-3600 Business Office @ <u>petersonc@mpcc.edu</u> or (308) 535-3777



«first_name»,

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) authorized COVID-19 emergency relief funds for students. You have been awarded an emergency grant of \$«float_in_01_HEERF_II_amount» based on your FAFSA information on file with Mid-Plains Community College and your enrollment for Spring 2021 as of February 15th. As we are preparing to send you a check for your emergency grant, we would like to give you an opportunity to review your address information on file with MPCC and alert us to any changes. Checks will be sent out by mid-March.

Follow the steps below by 8:00 AM CST on Thursday, March 4th, 2021 so that we can make changes before checks are sent out.

To review your address information:

- 1. Log in to CampusWeb
- 2. Go to the Student Housing Tab
- 3. Click on "My Residence Information"
- 4. Click on "View Your Residence Information"

If your address information is correct, there is nothing further you need to do.

If you live in campus housing, your check will be delivered to your campus mailbox. Please verify that you have a room assigned on this page. If not, please see the Residence Life Director on your campus.

If you live off campus, please verify that your mailing address is correct. If it is incorrect, please email browne@mpcc.edu with your current mailing address.

Sincerely,

Erinn M. Brown Area Director of Financial Aid Mid-Plains Community College

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