

BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE

Bismarck State College (BSC) received HEERF III/ARPA funds May 17, 2021. The Bismarck State College CARES ACT/HEERF funds reporting is published no later than 10 days after the calendar quarter. Last updated: Sept 30, 2021.

1. BSC received the Certification and Agreement to the Department of Education for HEERF III/ARPA funding through the Grant Award Notification system. The college will use the authorized funding for the Student Grant portion to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. BSC received \$2,022,882 from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students through HEERF III/ARPA funding.
3. As of Sept 30, 2021, BSC has distributed \$946,538 to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act via HEERF III/ARPA funding.
4. BSC has determined that 3,575 students at the institution are eligible to participate in student emergency grants as defined by Department of Education HEERF III Frequently Asked Questions.
5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under HEERF III/ARPA is 1,654 as of Sept 30, 2021.
6. To determine which students were eligible and identify those with the most exceptional need, BSC pulled a list of all Pell-eligible students to receive an automatic distribution of funds, as well as students who completed and submitted a FAFSA. Remaining funds were then used to establish a student application process for those who were experiencing exceptional need. BSC students received an email (see below) alerting them to their eligibility for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants with a link to the online form we asked that they complete.
7. Students were emailed with emergency grant information and a link to a simple online form to indicate their emergency needs. A notice was also posted at bismarckstate.edu/coronavirus with the same information. A committee of 11 BSC faculty and staff established guidelines and process for awards, and a three-member committee reviewed each application and determined amounts granted in accordance with the established guidelines and according to Education Department guidance. Students who qualified were issued a payment through the BSC Student Finance office in conjunction with BankMobile, the Third-Party bank that partners with BSC to deliver funds to students.

Email sent to BSC Students:

Dear BSC Student:

If you are a currently enrolled BSC student for Fall 2021 Semester and you have experienced expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible for emergency financial assistance from Bismarck State College. BSC received funds from the US Department of Education to assist students through the federal American Rescue Plan. Eligible emergency expenses include **food, housing, course materials, healthcare, childcare, technology, and tuition**. The emergency grants can be directed to pay outstanding BSC bills if you choose.

Students that have completed and submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with BSC Financial Aid will receive an automatic emergency grant payment of \$500 the week of September 20th from BSC Student Finance. These students will receive an email with information regarding the distribution of those funds. If you have any questions about Financial Aid or FAFSA, please contact BSC's Financial Aid office at 701-224-5494.

For students without a FAFSA, or those that submitted a FAFSA but have additional emergency needs, BSC has opened up an application portal to submit an emergency grant request. Click the link below to go to the application portal and fill in the required information.

[HEERF-III Student Emergency Grant Application Form](#)

The application portal will close on **Thursday, Sept 30, at 5:00 pm CT**. If you have any questions about the application, please contact the BSC Foundation at 701-224-5700.

KAYLYN BONDY

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Title IX Coordinator

