

Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Grant

What is a HEERF II Grant?

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) signed into law on December 27, 2020, gave the U.S. Department of Education funds to distribute to institutions of higher education through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II).

How do students pay an existing balance using HEERF II Grants or decline HEERF II Grants?

To agree to have HEERF II Grant funds pay towards any balance owed or to decline the funds, students must complete the following steps within 2 days of receiving the notification:

1. Log into LoLA
2. Click on the Home tab (or menu option if on a mobile device)
3. Navigate to the “Self Service Banner” section of the page
4. Click on the “Personal Information” link under the appropriate college
5. Click on the Action Items link
6. Based on device type:
 - a. If using a desktop and laptop computer:
 1. On the left side of the screen locate the text “HEERF Grant Action Items” and click on the down arrow to the right of the text
 2. Click on the “HEERF Grant Receipt Option – Spring 2021” section that appears below
 3. On the right side of the screen read the information and select the desired option
 4. Click Save
 5. (optional) Complete any other pending Action Item
 6. Click on the Home tab to return to the main LoLA page
 - b. If using a mobile device
 1. Click on the “Return to the list” menu at the bottom of the screen
 2. Scroll down and click on the down arrow to the right of the text “HEERF Grant Action Items”
 3. Click on “Return to the list” again
 4. Scroll down and click Spring 2021 HEERF text
 5. Read the information that appears, select the desired option, and click Save
 6. (optional) Click Return to the list option to complete any other pending Action Items.
 7. Click on the main menu icon (upper right corner) and click the Home link to return to the main LoLA screen

Who qualifies to receive a HEERF II Grant?

Louisiana Community & Technical Colleges have chosen the following eligibility guidelines in determining recipients:

- Students with active enrollment for Spring 2021 as of February 18, 2021
- Students who filed a FAFSA and who were considered eligible for the Federal Pell Grant based on the estimated family contribution,

- Students who are considered an eligible citizen or non-citizen verified through FAFSA completion, and
- Students who are considered degree-seeking.

The following students are excluded from receiving a HEERF Grant:

- Prisoners
- High School/Dual Enrolled
- Adult Basic Education Students
- Non-credit, Non-degree seeking
- Visiting and non-matriculating students
- Cross-enrolled students whose “home institution” is a non-LCTCS College
- Employees of the institutions

In the rare instance where a student is enrolled in two (2) or more LCTCS colleges, the college where the student is taking the most hours during the Spring 2021 semester will award the funds. Such students should not receive more than one (1) payment for the Spring 2021 semester.

How will students receive HEERF II Grants?

Students will receive their grants through their Bank Mobile account.

If you have not previously setup your Bank Mobile Refund Choice you should do so now by:

1. Log into LoLA
2. Click on the Student tab (or menu option if on a mobile device)
3. Locate the “Student Accounts Section” (may need to scroll down if on a mobile device)
4. Click on the “Select Refund Choice” link
5. Follow any additional on-screen instructions that are provided

When will I receive HEERF II Funds?

Funds will be disbursed on a weekly basis via Bank Mobile to eligible students starting the week of March 1, 2021. Please note that this date may vary by institution and is dependent on the college having first received the federal allocation of HEERF II Grant funds.

How can I use the funds?

Students awarded a HEERF II Grant may use this award to pay for school or any component of the cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to COVID-19, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or childcare. It is important to note that this emergency financial aid grant does not have to be repaid. Students may also use the funds towards any unpaid balance at the college.

Do the funds have to be repaid?

No. These are emergency grant funds and do not need to be repaid.

How much will I receive?

Amounts may vary by institution based on eligibility criteria listed above. We are currently determining what that amount will be.

I know someone that goes to another college who received a different amount.

Why is that?

Every college received a different amount of funds from the United States Department of Education. Because each college had a different amount of money and a different number of eligible students, grant amounts will vary by college.