The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (referred to as “HEERF III”) was authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and signed into law on March 11, 2021. HEERF III provided the University an additional $21,278,711.00 in funding for supplemental emergency grants to students.

- UAF received $21,278,711.00 (100%) of the total Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) dollars allocated to the University specifically for emergency financial aid grants.
- As of December 31, 2021, $21,276,411 has been distributed to students.
- As of December 31, 2021, 8,973 students were eligible for and have received an emergency financial aid grant from HEERF III funding. For the months of October 2021 – December 2021 we distributed $20,039,411.
- All eligible undergraduate, graduate and professional students were awarded HEERF III funding. Award amounts ranged from $2,000 – $2,650 based on Expected Family Contribution (EFC) reported in a student’s Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2020-2021. Students with the greatest need, according to their EFC, received the largest award.

There was no change in the definition of eligible students from that detailed in the University’s required 90-day reporting for September 31, 2021.

The following email was sent to student recipients once funding was awarded:

Dear Student,

We are pleased to inform you that you are eligible for an emergency aid grant under the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

The ARP was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from the COVID-19 pandemic. One section of the act established the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III and sent money to schools to use for emergency financial aid grants to students.

The University of Arkansas Office of Financial Aid determined your eligibility to receive a grant based on information provided in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) you filed in your 2021-2022 application.

The amount of emergency funds will be distributed as follows:

- $2,650 grants for Pell grant recipients
- $2,300 grants for students with an expected family contribution of $0-$10,000
- $2,000 grants for students with an expected family contribution of $10,001-$15,000
Funds will be distributed through BankMobile based on the refunding preference you select. The choices are 1) direct deposit to an existing bank account or 2) direct deposit to a BankMobile VIBE Checking Account.

If you haven’t set up your BankMobile account, please do so in order to receive your emergency funds. If you have signed up, be sure to check your refund delivery preference with BankMobile. You can contact BankMobile with any questions you have regarding their delivery preference. We also recommend that you update your mailing address in UAConnect.

To validate the legitimacy of this email, or for assistance, please contact the Treasurer’s Office at Treasurer’s Office at the University of Arkansas or at 479-575-5651.