

# HEERF II CRRSAA STUDENT AID FUNDS

## **What is the CRRSAA HEERF II Student Aid Funds?**

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is part of the federal government's Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), similar to the CARES Act that passed last year. It provides emergency grants from the US Department of Education to eligible students and institutions to help cover education-related expenses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Congress intends for recipients to use the funds they receive for unexpected expenses, unmet financial need, or expenses related to the disruption of campus operations resulting from the coronavirus. These include expenses for food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, or childcare.

## **Who is eligible for the CRRSAA HEERF II Student Aid funds?**

Congress has directed these funds to go to students with exceptional financial need, such as those eligible to receive a federal Pell Grant. Current AAMI students who are Pell-eligible received a partial distribution of these funds. AAMI's Financial Aid Office used data provided by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) documentation to determine student eligibility.

It was determined 159 students were eligible to receive federal funds for the Spring 2021 semester. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, AAMI disbursed \$31,693.68 of the \$95,080.00 it received for student aid. The remaining balance will be disbursed in the future to students deemed eligible at that time.

Unfortunately, the US Department of Education does not currently allow these funds to be used for international students, undocumented students, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients, or non-matriculated students.

# HEERF II CRRSAA INSTITUTION FUNDS

## **CRRSAA HEERF II Institution funds**

AAMI also received \$188,091.00 to be used by the institution to cover COVID related expenses incurred on or after December 27, 2020 (the date of the enactment of the CRRSAA). CRRSAA permits use of funding to mitigate “lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses already incurred, technology costs associated with a transition to distance education, faculty and staff trainings, payroll, and student support activities authorized by the Higher Education Act that address needs related to coronavirus.”