



**College of Southern Maryland  
American Rescue Plan (ARP) ACT  
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund  
2021 Quarter 3 ARP Fund Report (Initial)**

**OPEID Number: 00206400**  
**Report Date: September 30, 2021**

**1. Statement of Use**

On March 11, 2021, the President signed into the law the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. On May 13, 2021 the Department of Education notified College of Southern Maryland (CSM) of a \$4.9 million award of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Student Aid funds under section 2003(a)1 of the ARP Act. These funds were covered under the initial CARES Act Certification and Agreement form that was submitted to the Department of Education on in April 2020. CSM intends to use these funds to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

**2. Award Amount**

CSM has been awarded \$4,943,810 in ARP Emergency Financial Aid Grants for students.

**3. Total Amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 2003(a)1 of the ARP Act**

As of September 30, 2021, CSM has distributed \$0 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

**4. The estimated total number of students at the institution 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 to students under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act.**

At this time, CSM does not have an estimate of how many students will be eligible to receive these funds as the eligibility criteria (enrollment, FAFSA, Title IV eligibility) is still being evaluated.

**5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 2003(a) (1) of the ARP Act.**

As of September 30, 2021, CSM has awarded Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 0 students.

**6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARP Act.**

In an effort to provide the maximum support possible based on available funds, CSM will award funding based on both enrollment status and financial need, specifically Pell grant eligibility. The distribution groups are anticipated to be the following:

Full Time students (12 or more credits) – Pell recipients:	\$ TBD
Full Time students (12+ credits) – non-Pell recipients:	\$ TBD
3/4 Time students (9-11 credits) – Pell recipients:	\$ TBD
3/4 Time students (9-11 credits) – non-Pell recipients:	\$ TBD
1/2 Time students (6-8 credits) – Pell recipients:	\$ TBD
1/2 Time students (6-8 credits) – non-Pell recipients:	\$ TBD
Part Time students (1-5 credits) – Pell recipients:	\$ TBD
Part Time students (1-5 credits) – non-Pell recipients:	\$ TBD

Based on updated guidance from the Department of Education, it is anticipated that all students enrolled in a credit program will be considered for ARP funding. This is a departure from CARES Act and CRRSA Act funding criteria. In addition, it is anticipated that students will be given the option to authorize use of the funds specifically towards tuition and fees (current or past due balances). The institution is in the process of creating an application for students to submit to request ARP funding.

Students will be notified of the availability of HEERF III / ARP funding and encouraged to complete the online request form. It is anticipated that funds will be disbursed on a regular basis once submission of request has commenced. After sufficient time has elapsed for students to request payment for tuition and fee expenses, CSM will disburse funds directly to all non-responders.

Funds will automatically be disbursed to students who have a FAFSA on file, are enrolled in a Title IV eligible program of study, and satisfy all other eligibility requirements of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.

Students who do not have a 2021-2022 FAFSA on file at the time of the initial eligibility determination will be provided information on how to submit a FAFSA and will be considered for future disbursements.

Students were encouraged to sign up for direct deposit which allows for the funds to be quickly received. Students who do not opt for direct deposit will have checks mailed to their address on file with CSM.

**7. Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.**

It is expected that students will receive information / instructions regarding ARP fund eligibility in a manner similar to the process that was utilized for CRRSA Act funding (see below)

All students registered for the Spring 2021 semester were sent the following email regarding CRRSA Act Funds on April 15, 2021:

Dear Hawk,

The **Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act** was recently signed into law. We have been tasked by the U.S. Department of Education with disbursing emergency funds to our students to help with expenses related to the continued disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Pursuant to federal guidelines, CSM is working to distribute funds to students deemed eligible by the U.S. Department of Education. In order to be eligible for CRRSA Act funds, **students must be eligible to apply for federally-funded financial aid and be enrolled in at least one credit course in the Spring 2021 Semester.**

As a student enrolled at CSM for the Spring 2021 Semester, you may be eligible to receive funds under the CRRSA Act. To be eligible to receive assistance under the CRRSA Act, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Complete the [FAFSA](#) by April 30\* and use CSM's Federal School Code (002064)
- Demonstrate financial need, which is defined as having an Expected Family Contribution of 13,000 or less on your 2020-2021 FAFSA.
- Be pursuing an associate degree or credit certificate program
- Be enrolled in at least one course for the Spring 2021 Semester

\*For best consideration to receive CRRSA Act funding, you are encouraged to **complete a [2020-2021 FAFSA](#) by April 30, 2021**, if you have not previously applied for this academic year. If you are unsure if you have submitted a 2020-2021 FAFSA to CSM, you can check the status of your financial aid by logging into the Financial Aid section of your Self-Service Account and reviewing the 2020-2021 Academic Year information.

**If you have submitted your 2020-2021 FAFSA application, no further action is necessary at this time to be considered for aid through the CRRSA Act.** Recipients will be notified by the college if they will be receiving funds.

You may wish to provide CSM with your banking information to facilitate electronic transfer of funds if you have not already done so. You can update your information by logging into the Banking Information section of your Self-Service Account.

**CSM is committed to providing CRRSA Act funding to students as quickly as possible.** We anticipate sending the first funds to eligible students by the end of the month.

If you have any questions regarding your eligibility for financial aid, please contact the Financial Assistance Department at 301-934-7531 or [finaid@csmd.edu](mailto:finaid@csmd.edu).

Sincerely,  
Christian Zimmermann  
Acting Executive Director  
Financial Assistance and Advocacy