

# Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Grant

## Fall 2021

### What is a HEERF III Grant?

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 gave the U.S. Department of Education funds to distribute to institutions of higher education through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III). The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III) is \$22,867,065. Delgado issued \$659,700 to 2,199 students in Summer 2021 and will award an estimated \$6,300,000 to 9,000 students for the Fall 2021 semester.

### Who is eligible to receive HEERF III funds from Delgado?

All students currently enrolled at Delgado Community College in the Fall 2021 semester are eligible for these funds if they demonstrate exceptional need. This includes citizens, permanent residents, refugees, asylum seekers, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) recipients, other DREAMers, and similar undocumented students. International students may also receive HEERF III funds.

Prisoners and High School/Dual Enrollment, Adult Basic Education, Non-Credit, Non-Degree Seeking, Visiting, and Cross-Enrolled Students are not eligible for HEERF III funds.

### What qualifies as "exceptional need" for HEERF III?

Students who have authorized Pell Grants automatically qualify. Other types of exceptional need could include students who have faced significant unexpected expenses or circumstances that would affect their financial situation, such as the loss of employment, reduction of income, or food or housing insecurity, etc.

### Do I have to have file a FAFSA to receive HEERF III funds?

No. If you do not have an authorized Pell Grant, you can still demonstrate exceptional need by submitting the [Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds \(HEERF\) Application](#) during one of the offering periods:

- August 20 - 27, 2021
- September 14 - 21, 2021
- December 1 – 8, 2021

### How much money will I receive?

Eligible students who demonstrate need will receive \$700.

### How will these funds be distributed?

After affirming eligibility, Delgado will apply grants directly to student accounts, either recognizing it as a credit against balances owed or refunded directly to the student based on their BankMobile refund selection preference.

**When will I receive my funds?**

Students who request and are approved for emergency relief will have funds posted to their account by September 10, 2021. After the initial offering period, funds will post within 14 days after eligibility is determined.

**I have an outstanding tuition balance. Can I apply these funds to that balance?**

Yes, you may choose to have the grant applied to your existing balance or to receive a refund.

**I am enrolled in an online program. Am I eligible for a HEERF III grant?**

Yes. Students enrolled exclusively in online programs are eligible, provided that they can demonstrate exceptional need.

**Do these funds affect any other financial aid I receive?**

No. HEERF III grants do not affect your financial aid package.

**Will all eligible students receive the HEERF grant funds?**

Yes. We have allocated our disbursement so that all students who are eligible will receive grants.

**Is this grant considered taxable?**

No. This emergency grant will not be included in your gross income.