

Quarter 3, 2021 Report CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) Student Grant Programs

On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan of 2021 (ARP) was signed into federal law. Norwich University received funding under this program for the express purpose of providing financial aid grants to students. Per Department of Education guidance, the funds must be prioritized for students with exceptional need. Students may use the grant for a component of their cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare. If a student chooses, the grant may be used to satisfy his or her account's outstanding balance.

Norwich University received \$3,219,156 under this program for emergency financial grants to students. Per Department of Education (DOE) guidance, the funds must be used for cash grants to students. Students enrolled in exclusively distance education courses are eligible for a grant. CRRSSA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need.

Following the parameters of DOE guidance, Norwich used both information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to measure socioeconomic status, and demonstrated hardships in accessing loan resources throughout the year. Grants were provided to students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$16,000 or less or had undue hardships that were identifiable. The total student population eligible for consideration was 3,702. Grants ranged in value from \$3,500 up to \$7,000. 781 individual students were awarded grants totaling \$3,189,000.

These funds are emergency relief grants provided by the federal government and are not considered to be part of a student's typical financial aid package. Additionally, per the Internal Revenue Service, these funds are categorized as disaster relief payments under section 130 of the Internal Revenue Code and are excluded from taxable income.

HEERF grants were provided directly to students through our normal refund system, NUPay. Students who had not already done so were asked to provide direct deposit banking information by logging into their NUPay Account and selecting "Choose Your Refund Delivery Method". If we did not have direct deposit information for a student, a check was sent to the mailing address of record.

Grants were distributed the week of August 23, 2021. All students who were awarded the grant were sent an email notification. Students were given the opportunity to opt-in to allow the awards to be applied to student account balances, otherwise they would receive a direct payment in the amount of the award. Upon receipt of an email, eligible students who had questions regarding their grant were encouraged to contact the Bursar's Office via email at nubursar@norwich.edu or by telephone at (802) 485-2634.

Cumulative Information Regarding Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs Through 9/30/21:

- Norwich University has received or will receive \$5,223,770 from the Department of Education for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs.
- Norwich University has distributed \$5,193,614 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs.
- Norwich University estimates that 7,087 students were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs.
- Norwich University has awarded Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 1,824 students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) programs.
- Following the parameters of DOE guidance, Norwich used both information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to measure socioeconomic status, and demonstrated hardships in accessing loan resources throughout the year.