



**Monroe County Community College:**  
**CRRSAA - Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting**  
**October 1, 2021 – Quarterly Report**

Monroe County Community College (OPEID 002294) signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economics Security (CARES) Act on April 17, 2020. On January 14, 2021 the U.S. Department of Education announced an additional \$22.7 billion available to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is allocated to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA).

MCCC's allocation of funding received through the CRRSAA is \$2,818,764. MCCC will use no less than \$650,258 received under Section 314(c)(3) of the CRRSAA to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students.

The CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with *exceptional need*, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. To prioritize grants to students with exceptional need, MCCC has defined maximum award limits for students based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA, which is a standardized data element used to confirm financial need.

Based on MCCC's methodology of using the EFC from the FAFSA to prioritize students with exceptional need, the estimated total number of MCCC students 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 314(c)(3) of CRRSAA is 1315 students (unduplicated headcount) enrolled in the Winter 2021 and/or Summer 2021 semesters. MCCC fully expended the student portion of CRRSAA funds by October 1, 2021.

For the quarterly report due on October 1, 2021, MCCC has issued \$650,258 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants from CRRSAA funds directly to 490 MCCC students. The Emergency Financial Aid Grants were administered in two phases, as agreed upon by the MCCC HEERF Task Force.

For the first phase of CRRSAA awarding, MCCC students completed an application for Emergency Financial Aid Grants through the [AcademicWorks](#) scholarship portal. The application provided

instructions to students that they must have a FAFSA on file with MCCC so that MCCC could prioritize students with exceptional need.

Eligibility for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for MCCC students was based on financial issues they had or would face related to any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care. The MCCC HEERF Task Force developed the following guidelines for determining the Emergency Financial Aid Grant amounts:

To prioritize grants to students with exceptional need, MCCC defined maximum award limits for students based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA, which is a standardized data element used to confirm financial need.

- Pell Eligible Students with a 0 EFC: Maximum CRRSAA Award = \$2000
- Pell Eligible Students with an EFC between 1 and 5711: Maximum CRRSAA Award = \$1500
- Title IV Eligible Students with an EFC greater than 5711: Maximum CRRSAA Award = \$1000

The following matrix represents guidelines to determine the amount of CRRSAA Grant funding to award per student, based on the expenses the student identified on the AcademicWorks CRRSAA Grant application. Each student's situation was evaluated individually based on the information in the student's application, with awards not to exceed the maximum award limits listed above.

- \$ TBD – Tuition / Fees (based on other tuition/fee restricted gift aid student is receiving)
- \$ 300 – Books
- \$ 750 – Housing
- \$ 250 – Food
- \$ 200 – Transportation
- \$ 400 – Health Care (including mental health care)
- \$ 400 – Child Care
- \$ 750 – Computer Purchase for Online Courses

Each student's situation was evaluated individually based on the information provided in the student's application, and MCCC maintained the flexibility to increase the amount awarded per eligible expense to each student on a case-by-case basis.

MCCC students were notified about the availability of these Emergency Financial Aid Grants, the requirement to have a FAFSA on file, and the application to apply for the funds via a press release, email notifications, text messages, the MCCC website and social media postings.

The second phase of CRRSAA awarding was completed during the Summer 2021 semester. After all students had an opportunity to complete the application for Emergency Financial Aid Grants through the AcademicWorks scholarship portal and classes had been in session for two months for the semester, MCCC ended the CRRSAA application period. The remaining amount of the student portion of CRRSAA funding was divided equally among all Pell Grant recipients enrolled in the Summer 2021 semester who had not completed the application for CRRSAA funding for either the Winter 2021 or Summer 2021 semesters. The Pell Grant recipients demonstrated the

highest financial need (based on FAFSA results) for assistance in paying for the increased costs related to classes being held in an online and blended format during the Summer 2021 semester.