 COVID-19 CARES Act

HEERF II COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funds

*Frequently Asked Questions*

**What are the HEERF II COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funds?**

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. In total, the CRRSAA authorizes $81.88 billion in support for education, in addition to the $30.75 billion provided last spring through the CARES Act. Nebraska Methodist College has received approximately $276,000 in student aid from CRRSAA for impacted students.

**How will students be notified about HEERF II COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funds?**

Students will be sent several email notifications to their NMC email account. Additionally, text messages will be sent to student mobile devices. Notifications will include information about the funds, eligibility, and a link to the application form.

**Eligibility for HEERF II COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funds**

In accordance with the regulations, NMC will make financial aid grants to students, which can be used for 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**. HEERF II COVID-19 emergency relief funds are available to students enrolled during the spring 2021 semester who incurred unexpected expenses resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The HEERF II requires that institutions **prioritize students with exceptional need**, such as students who receive Pell Grants.  HEERF II COVID-19 emergency relief funds also **allows for emergency grants to students exclusively enrolled in distance education**.  Students will have the option to have relief funds to apply directly to their student accounts. Students are encouraged to apply for emergency HEERF II COVID-19 relief funding through the [**COVID-19 Student Needs**](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?MethodistCollege&layout_id=7)link. NMC will review applications for designation of funds.  Students please complete the entire application and be prepared to briefly describe the details of situation and expenses due to COVID-19 and report need for funding in expense categories such as food, housing, tuition, course materials, technology, health care, childcare, etc.

**How will HEERF II COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funds be distributed?**

Students may have HEERF II funds apply directly to their student accounts for tuition and fee expenses.  If the student is set up for direct deposit, the student may have funds deposited into their bank account.  If you are not signed up for direct deposit, please contact the NMC Business Office to set up your account.