

HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND II - GRANTS TO STUDENTS

In January 2021, the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) announced additional funding available to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. 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 expeditiously provided last spring through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136.

- I. The total amount of funds that Los Angeles College of Music has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Student is \$193,823.
- II. Students who meet the basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid and who have the greatest financial need can be considered for these funds. Unfortunately, under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) does not allow these funds to be used for international students.
- III. The following is the method used by LACM to determine student eligibility to receive HEERF II grant.

All students who have been affected by COVID19 and are in need of this emergency grant, are required to submit an electronic application and supporting documentation at https://lacm.formstack.com/forms/heerf_ii_student_covid19_financial_hardship_grant. The grant is distributed to students who submit their request for assistance for housing, food, health care, childcare expenses, or other expenses that are normally included in the student's cost of attendance as a result of the pandemic. The student applying for this grant must have submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the current academic year. Students who have not submitted their 2020-2021 FAFSA, must submit their application at www.studentaid.gov and must meet the following criteria:

- a. Have a high school diploma or GED, or have completed high school in an approved homeschool setting.
- b. Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen.
- c. Have a valid Social Security number.
- d. Male students must have registered with the United States Selective Service.
- e. Demonstrate an exceptional need.
- f. Enrolled in at least 2 credits for the quarter.

The institution will continue to distribute these emergency funds as students submit their request. Amounts will be awarded with the goals to assist as many students as possible based on needs presented in the application. Additionally, the amount of funding will vary depending on the student

need. Minimum awards are \$500 and maximum awards are \$2000 a quarter based on the available funds at the time of the application. LACM will use the student EFC to determine the grant eligibility.

IV. LACM will not:

1. Condition the student eligibility of HEERF II grants based on continued or future enrollment.
2. Use the HEERF II grant to satisfy a student's outstanding tuition balance, unless LACM has received a student's written or (electronic), affirmative consent, or
3. Require such consent as a condition of receipt of or eligibility for the HEERF II Grant funds.

V. Students will be notified of their award via their LACM student email and a check will be mailed to the student at the address the institution has in file within 14 days or apply to your tuition account with the student written or electronic consent. As part of this notification, students will have the option on the Formstack Application to consent HEERF II grant payment towards any of their balance owed to the institution from Winter 2021 quarter and forward. Any remaining balance applied after the grant payment, will be the student responsibility. If the student account balance results in a credit balance, the credit will be refunded to the student. The Business Office will issue a check to the student as part of the refund process.

Students who are awarded these funds and do not provide consent to apply these funds to their student account will receive a check by mail.

VI. Completion of the HEERF II application does not guarantee the student eligibility to receive this grant. LACM will award students with the most exceptional need and make available subsequent application periods based on the available funds.