Cornell University signed and returned a Certification and Agreement to the Department of Education to accept allocated funds from the Coronavirus Assistance, Relief and Economics Security Act (CARES Act); the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA); and the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2; legislation which established and funded the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF I, II & III) to provide Student Emergency Grants. These critical funds help eligible Cornell University students cover emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus or eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance.

Federal Emergency Aid Grant Reporting:

As of the quarter ending March 31, 2022, Cornell University has been allocated $29,437,780.00 under CARES, CRRSAA and ARP to fund HEERF Student Emergency Grants and has distributed $29,437,780.00 directly to students.

The estimated total number of students eligible for review to receive Student Emergency Grants in the quarter ending 3/31/2022 was 1,614.ii

Cornell University distributed $2,307,372.72iii during the quarter ending 3/31/2022 to 1,261 studentsiv.

Federal Emergency Aid Grant Criteria and Eligibility:

Funds distributed during the quarter ending 3/31/2022 were available to Ithaca and Cornell Tech undergraduate, graduate and professional, online, non-degree, and withdrawn students that had submitted a FAFSA or Profile Application for 2021-2022 by August 31, 2021. For these students, grant awards were based on a calculation of financial need using the student’s EFC and/or the Parent’s Contribution. The maximum award amount was $3300.

Federal HEERF III funds were also made available to Ithaca and Cornell Tech students who submitted a request for funding to assist with COVID related expenses through the Cornell University Emergency Fund. These students must have experienced a COVID-related expense and document financial need for HEERF funding. Award amounts were based on emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus or eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance, such as food, housing, and transportation. Fewer than 10 students have received funding through this distribution method.

Weill Cornell Medicine distributed funds to graduate and professional matriculated, degree seeking students, who were enrolled for the Fall 2021 academic term or on an approved leave of absence from their program. All students were provided with a flat $1650 emergency grant distribution.

Students received an email notifying them of their distribution. Copies of all communications and additional information is available online at https://covid.cornell.edu/cares-act/

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i CARES Allocation ($6,400,490); CRRSAA Allocation ($6,400,490); ARP Allocation ($16,636,800)
ii 1614 Total Students (1361 WCM; 253 Ithaca)
iii Note, this amount includes reversals totaling $13,920, returned through G5 during the reporting period.
iv Unduplicated count. Note, this count includes fewer than 10 distributions reversed during the 2022 Quarter 1 Reporting Period due to uncashed payments distributed to students who were expected to begin enrollment during the 2021-2022 Academic Year, but who did not, and who had not ever been enrolled during the pandemic.