

January 3, 2022

York College of Pennsylvania has received funding from the U.S. Department of Education's American Recovery Plan Act (ARP): Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III, which addresses the impact of the COVID-19 situation on institutions of higher education.

Below, please find additional information regarding the Act and its implementation on our campus.

1. York College of Pennsylvania acknowledges that President Pamela Gunter-Smith signed and returned to the Department both the Funding Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding and the Certification and Agreement for the Institutional Portion of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Formula Grants Authorized by Section 18004(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. An additional acknowledgment was not required under ARP since President Gunter-Smith provided this acknowledgment under the CARES Act. York College of Pennsylvania will use no less than the required amount received under the ARP program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. York College of Pennsylvania has access to \$4,497,276 under the ARP program from the Department of Education pursuant to the College's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. As of January 3, 2022, the College had drawn \$1,521,000 of these funds.
3. As of January 3, 2022, the College had distributed \$1,521,000 to students under the ARP program.
4. At the College, there are an estimated 3,730 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 the ARP program.
5. As of January 3, 2022, 2,372 students had received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the ARP program.
6. The College will be using a multi-faceted approach to distribute Emergency Financial Aid Grants. An opt-in/application method, a method of identifying PELL grant recipients for further grants, and also having students complete a worksheet/request for additional special circumstance consideration.
  - Full-time students completing the opt-in/application will be eligible for \$650 while part-time students completing the opt-in/application will be eligible for \$325.
  - \$2,000 to students enrolled during the fall 2021 semester that received a Federal Pell Grant disbursement.

- The College has made funds available to students demonstrating exceptional need outside of the prescribed formula used for initial grant awards. Students will submit Special Circumstance applications/worksheets requesting funds for additional assistance to the Financial Assistance Office. Assistance will be granted based on a review of the submitted document(s) by the Financial Assistance Office.
7. Students received instructions/directions/guidance via email and mass campus portal announcement in which the College notified them of the opportunity to apply for a grant by completing an opt-in/application. The application was, and is still currently, available to students through a Qualtrics form. The student invitation to apply is enclosed. The College also made a campus portal announcement along with a supplemental email to students regarding the opportunity for a special circumstance review. Attached is a copy of the College's Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III Student Special Circumstances Request Worksheet. The College will send emails and post a campus portal announcement to students identified as PELL grant recipients notifying them of additional Emergency Financial Aid Grants in mid to late January 2022.

### **The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III)**

York College of Pennsylvania understands that economic hardship and changes in family circumstances continue to be a reality for most families and we invite **all undergraduate students** to submit an application for a student grant through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III).

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021 and funds were appropriated to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) as a response to coronavirus. York College of Pennsylvania has been allocated funding, as part of this Act, to be used for student grants and prioritize the allocation of funds to undergraduate students with exceptional need. These grants may be used to help defray student expenses associated with tuition, fees, food, housing, health care or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus (i.e. testing or treatment).



## Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III Student Special Circumstances Request

Please complete and return this form if you have experienced increased expenses or an economic hardship due to COVID-19. Please be sure to sign and date the form on Page 2.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle Initial*

Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City State Zip*

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Request:** Please select, from the following, any COVID-19 related hardship or special circumstances experienced. (Select all that apply)

I have experienced an economic hardship resulting in a reduction of hours worked due to COVID-19 related circumstances. This resulted in a loss of income and I am requesting \$ \_\_\_\_\_ due to this loss of income.

I have experienced an economic hardship resulting in unemployment due to COVID-19 related circumstances. This resulted in a loss of income and I am requesting \$ \_\_\_\_\_ due to this loss of income.

I have experienced increased expenses as a direct result of COVID-19 related circumstances. I am requesting consideration for the following expense(s) incurred during the 2021-2022 academic year:

Please provide the amount of the increase next to the expense (if applicable) and how COVID-19 related circumstances contributed to the increase.

Medical expense: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Food expense: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Housing expense: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Travel expense: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tuition/fee expense: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation of increase(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My parent(s) have experienced an economic hardship resulting in a reduction of hours worked and/or unemployment due to COVID-19 related circumstances. My family and I are now requesting special circumstance consideration for a revised financial aid package. (A separate worksheet will be sent to you through YCP email by checking this box)

I have experienced other COVID-19 related circumstances not listed and am requesting \$ \_\_\_\_\_. A written summary of these circumstances must be provided below or attached on a separate sheet.

**B. Certification:** I certify that I have experienced economic hardship or increased expenses for the 2021-2022 academic year and the information provided is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree to provide proof and/or documentation of the information I have provided on this form if asked to do so by the Financial Assistance Office. I also recognize that if I do not complete the worksheet in full or sign this form, I will not receive consideration.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
Approved Amount: \$ _____	Check Request Date: _____
FA Administrator _____ Signature	Date: _____