

P. O. BOX 271 • MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36101-0217 • 334 / 229-4223, FAX 334 / 229-4948

VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE

America Rescue Plan Act, 2021(ARPA) Act and CRRSAA ** Quarterly Report** As of December 31, 2021

Grant Award Number P4

P425E203477

Budget Period

12/27/2020 - 6/2/2022(CRRSAA) ---6/2/2021-6/2/2022(ARP)

Federal Funding Period

05/04/2020 - 6/2/2022

Current Award Amount

\$3,142,232.00(CRRSAA) and \$9,490,815(ARP)

Since The University was awarded Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students in previous Cares Grants, we did not have to sign an additional Certification and Agreement. The previous agreement moved forward with this grant and the appropriate funding was added to the existing portal. These critical funds help eligible students with expenses related to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The University was awarded \$9,490,815 to provide Emergence Financial Aid Grants to Students under the American Rescue Plan Act. The total eligible population in Quarter 4(October 2021-December 2021) was 3,165 with \$6,330,000 being disbursed to students. As of December 31, 2021, \$7,486,744.80 in American Rescue Plan HEERF funds have been disbursed to 3,743 unduplicated students.

The criteria for the American Rescue Plan Act is below:

A. Eligibility Requirements for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

- 1. Enrolled at Alabama State University on or after March 13, 2020
- 2. Eligible to receive one of the following need based federal programs to demonstrate exceptional need.
 - Pell Grant-Undergraduate students
 - Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)-Undergraduate students
 - Federal Workstudy (FWS)-Undergraduate and Graduate
- 3. Emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus such as tuition, food, housing, health care and child care to be determined by the student.
- 4. Priority will be given to domestic undergraduate students by allocating funds to domestic Pell and FSEOG recipients. Then, work study recipients whether graduate or undergraduate not covered by the Pell and FSEOG requirements will be assisted.

B. Priority Guidelines

Priority will be given to exceptional need by one of the following categories.

- 1. Eligible to receive Pell, FSEOG, or Federal Work study.
- Inability to pay outstanding balances as a result of hardships caused by Coronavirus and eligible for Pell, FSEOG or FWS as indicated in the eligibility requirements stated in section A number 2.
 - Amount may vary depending on need.
 - The amount to be determined by Student Accounts.
 - Written Authorization required from the student to apply funds to their balance.
 - Failure to authorize funds to be applied to the student's balance does not constitute ineligibility to receive funds.

C. Other eligible recipients

• Emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus such as tuition, food, housing, health care and child care to be determined by the student.

Additional Information can be found on www.alasu.edu/cares-actinformation

As previously reported, all funds from the Cares Act as well as CRRSAA have been disbursed in previous reported quarters.

Source documents:

- Letter to the students from the President
- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Supplemental Agreement(ALN 84.425E) (a)(1)
 Student Aid Portion
- Letter to the Students Regarding the American Rescue Plan Act
- Revised Letter to the Students Regarding the American Rescue Plan Act
- Eligibility Criteria for the American Rescue Plan Act

Sincerely,

William Hopper
Vice President for Business and Finance

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Supplemental Agreement (ALN 84.425E) ((a)(1) Student Aid Portion)

SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT FUNDS FOR STUDENTS

The terms, conditions, and requirements governing your institution's (Recipient's) use of these supplemental grant funds awarded pursuant to section 2003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2) (supplemental award or grant) by the U.S. Department of Education (Department) are governed by section 2003 of the ARP and section 314 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (Pub. L. 116-260) and the following terms and conditions of this Supplemental Agreement.

BY DRAWING DOWN THESE GRANT FUNDS, YOU AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH ON BEHALF OF THE INSTITUTION YOU REPRESENT, AND YOU WARRANT THAT YOU HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO BIND THE INSTITUTION TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

Use of Supplemental Grant Funds:

- 1. Section 2003(7) of the ARP requires Recipient, an institution of higher education as defined in section 101 or 102(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), 20 USC § 1001 or 1002(c), to provide emergency financial aid grants to students in an amount equivalent to the sum of two amounts: 50 percent of the portion of its allocation that is based on formula factors from CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(A)-(D) and 100 percent of the portion of its allocation that is based on formula factors from CRRSAA section 314(a)(1)(E)-(F). The amount of funds made available by this supplemental award under Assistance Listing Number (ALN) 84.425E represents the minimum amount that Recipient must use for making emergency financial aid grants to students.
- 2. Under section 2003(7) of the ARP and section 314(c)(3) of the CRRSAA, Recipient must make emergency financial aid grants to students (which may include students exclusively enrolled in distance education), which may 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.
- 3. Recipient acknowledges that it retains discretion to determine the amount and availability of each individual emergency financial aid grant consistent with all applicable laws, including non-discrimination laws. Recipient acknowledges it must not distribute emergency financial aid grants in a manner that discriminates against individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or sex. See, e.g., 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000(c)-(d) (Title VI), 29 U.S.C. § 701 et seq., 20 U.S.C. § 1681 (Title IX).
- 4. Recipient further acknowledges that under CRRSAA section 314(c)(3), it must prioritize grants to students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants.

However, students do not need to be Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell Grants in order to receive an emergency financial aid grant.

- 5. Recipient acknowledges that it may not condition the receipt of an emergency financial aid grant on continued or future enrollment with the Recipient. Recipient also acknowledges that it may not require a student to consent to the application of the emergency financial aid grant to the student's outstanding account balance with Recipient as a condition of receipt of or eligibility for an emergency financial aid grant. Recipient also acknowledges that adding preconditions to receiving a financial aid grant that thwart this requirement may be subjected to oversight and corrective action.
- 6. In consideration for this award, Recipient agrees that Recipient holds these grant funds in trust for students and acts in the nature of a fiduciary for students.
- 7. Recipient acknowledges that the Secretary recommends (a) the maximum Federal Pell Grant for the applicable award year as an appropriate maximum amount for a student's emergency financial aid grant in most cases, and (b) that the Recipient should consider each student's particular socioeconomic circumstances in the administration of these grants.
- 8. The Secretary strongly encourages Recipient's financial aid administrator to exercise the use of professional judgment available under HEA section 479A, 20 USC § 1087tt, to make adjustments on a case-by-case basis to exclude individual emergency financial aid grants from the calculation of a student's expected family contribution. The Secretary has determined that these individual emergency financial aid grants do not constitute Federal financial aid under Title IV of the HEA.
- 9. Recipient acknowledges that it may voluntarily decline all or a portion of its ARP (a)(1) student funds. The recipient may indicate this by submitting the Voluntary Decline of HEERF form (OMB Control Number 1840-0856) to the Department by August 11, 2021. Recipient further acknowledges if it submits this form, it will be ineligible for the future redistribution of ARP HEERF grant funds to other institutions with greater needs due to the coronavirus.

Grant Administration:

10. Recipient acknowledges that consistent with 2 CFR § 200.305, it must minimize the time between drawing down funds from G5 and paying incurred obligations (liquidation). Recipient further acknowledges that if it draws down funds and does not pay the incurred obligations (liquidates) within 15 calendar days it may be subject to heightened scrutiny by the Department, Recipient's auditors, and/or the Department's Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Recipient further acknowledges that returning funds pursuant to mistakes in drawing down excessive grant funds in advance of need may also be subject to heightened scrutiny by the Department, Recipient's auditors, and/or the Department's OIG. Finally, Recipient acknowledges that it must maintain drawn down grant funds in an interest-bearing account, and any interest earned on all Federal grant funds above \$500

(all Federal grants together) during an institution's fiscal year must be returned (remitted) to the Federal government via a process described here:

https://www2.ed.gov/documents/funding-101/g5-returning-interest.pdf.

- 11. Recipient may not charge any indirect or administrative costs to funds made available under this supplemental award because the allocation in this grant award represents the minimum amount of funds that must be distributed to students.
- 12. Recipient acknowledges that any obligation under this grant (pre-award costs pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.458) must have been incurred on or after March 13, 2020, the date of the declaration of a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak (85 FR 15337).
- 13. Recipient must promptly and to the greatest extent practicable distribute all grant funds from this award in the form of emergency financial aid grants to students within the one-year period of performance (2 CFR § 200.77) specified in Box 6 of this Grant Award Notification (GAN).
- 14. Recipient must, to the greatest extent practicable, continue to pay its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to coronavirus pursuant to section 315 of the CRRSAA.
- 15. Recipient acknowledges that its failure to draw down any amount (\$1 or more) of its supplemental grant funds within 90 days of the date of this supplemental award will constitute nonacceptance of the terms, conditions, and requirements of this Supplemental Agreement and of these supplemental grant funds. In such event, the Department, in its sole discretion, may choose to deobligate these supplemental grant funds or take other appropriate administrative action, up to and including terminating the grant award pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.340.

Reporting and Accountability:

- 16. Recipient must promptly and timely provide a detailed accounting of the use and expenditure of the funds provided by this supplemental award in such manner and with such frequency as the Secretary may require.
- 17. Recipient must comply with all requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, 31 USC § 7501, et seq. (Single Audit Act) and all applicable auditing standards. Considering that the HEERF grant program is a new program not previously audited or subjected to Department oversight, and the inherent risk that comes with a new program, the Department strongly suggests that the HEERF grant program be audited as a major program in the first fiscal year(s) that the institution received a HEERF grant.
- 18. Recipient acknowledges it is under a continuing affirmative duty to inform the Department if Recipient is to close or terminate operations as an institution or merge with another institution. In such cases, Recipient must promptly notify in writing the assigned

- education program officer contact in Box 3 of the GAN. Additionally, Recipient must promptly notify the assigned education program officer if the Recipient's Authorized Representative changes.
- 19. Recipient must cooperate with any examination of records with respect to the advanced funds by making records and authorized individuals available when requested, whether by (a) the Department and/or its OIG; or (b) any other Federal agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority. Recipient must retain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other non-Federal entity records pertinent to a Federal award for a period of three years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.334.
- 20. Recipient acknowledges that failure to comply with this Supplemental Agreement, its terms and conditions, and/or all relevant provisions and requirements of the CRRSAA or ARP or any other applicable law may result in Recipient's liability under the False Claims Act, 31 USC § 3729, et seq.; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; 18 USC § 1001, as appropriate; and all of the laws and regulations referenced in the "Applicable Law" section of this Supplemental Agreement, below.

Applicable Law:

- 21. Recipient must comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms (SF) SF-424B and SF-424D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Assurances for Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders, and regulations.
- 22. Recipient certifies that with respect to the certification regarding lobbying in Department Form 80-0013, no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or supplementing of Federal grants under this program; Recipient must complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," when required (34 CFR part 82, Appendix B).
- 23. Recipient must comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.



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VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE

This letter supersedes the letter emailed on September 24, 2021

September 29, 2021

Greetings Hornet Nation:

We are excited to announce that the University has been awarded additional student emergency grant funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) (Pub. L 117-2) to supplement the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) (Pub. L. 116-136), the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act 2021, Supplemental Agreement (CFDA84.425E) (A)(1) (Student Aid Portion), which was passed by Congress and signed into law. These emergency grants are awarded to help to cover unexpected expenses students, especially those with exceptional needs, may have incurred due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The University received \$9,490,815 designated for emergency relief grants for students who are enrolled and validated in the University on or before October 15, 2021. The University is charged with prioritizing the distribution of these funds focusing on students with *exceptional needs*. The total amount of the funds will be distributed as grants to students who meet the eligibility requirements as set forth by the United States Department of Education in relation to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Please refer to the attached ARPA Student Eligibility information sheet in the link below:

www.alasu.edu/americanrescueplan

Students may authorize the University to apply a portion of these funds to their outstanding Fall Semester 2021 balances. Please see the link below with the attached authorized form:

www.alasu.edu/arpaauthorizationform

For those ASU students who already receive their funds through BankMobile either on their Vibe Card or directly into their personal bank accounts, you do not have to do anything. Your grant will be deposited in the same manner as your previous refunds (either onto your BankMobile Vibe account or into your personal bank account.)

If you lost your BankMobile Vibe card or you have never registered with BankMobile, you will need to do the following:

- Visit refundselection.com
- When you are asked for a code, click on the "Need A Code?" link.
- Follow the steps to receive your code and then enter it as directed.
- Then, follow the directions to select whether you would like your funds to be placed on a BankMobile Vibe account or directly to your personal bank account.

Once you have completed the registration process, then the University will be able to deposit your ARPA 2021 grant funds.

We hope that these grants will help to alleviate any undue financial burdens that our students encountered during the pandemic.

If you have any questions or to receive assistance, please forward an email to American rescueplan@alasu.edu.

Remember Stay Aware, Stay Safe and Stay Hornet Strongl

Sincerely

Bill/Hopper.



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VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE

September 24, 2021

Greetings Hornet Nation:

We are excited to announce that the University has been awarded additional student emergency grant funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) (Pub. L 117-2) to supplement the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) (Pub. L. 116-136), the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act 2021, Supplemental Agreement (CFDA84.425E) (A)(1) (Student Aid Portion), which was passed by Congress and signed into law. These emergency grants are awarded to help to cover unexpected expenses students, especially those with exceptional needs, may have incurred due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The University received \$9,490,815 designated for emergency relief grants for students who are currently enrolled in the University as of the date of this letter. The University is charged with prioritizing the distribution of these funds focusing on students with exceptional needs. The total amount of the funds will be distributed as grants to students who meet the eligibility requirements as set forth by the United States Department of Education in relation to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Please refer to the attached ARPA Student Eligibility information sheet in the link below:

www.alasu.edu/americanrescueplan

The *initial* distribution of the grants will begin on Monday, September 27, 2021. Students may authorize the University to apply a portion of these funds to their outstanding Fall Semester 2021 balances, however this would need to be completed by Tuesday, September 28, 2021. Please see the link below with the attached authorized form:

www.alasu.edu/arpaauthorizationform

For those ASU students who already receive their funds through BankMobile either on their Vibe Card or directly into their personal bank accounts, you do not have to do anything. Your grant will be deposited in the same manner as your previous refunds (either onto your BankMobile Vibe account or into your personal bank account.)

If you lost your BankMobile Vibe card or you have never registered with BankMobile, you will need to do the following:

- Visit refundselection.com
- When you are asked for a code, click on the "Need A Code?" link.
- Follow the steps to receive your code and then enter it as directed.
- Then, follow the directions to select whether you would like your funds to be placed on a BankMobile Vibe account or directly to your personal bank account.

Once you have completed the registration process, then the University will be able to deposit your ARPA 2021 grant funds.

We hope that these grants will help to alleviate any undue financial burdens that our students encountered during the pandemic.

If you have any questions or to receive assistance, please forward an email to American rescueptan@alasu.edu.

Remember Stay Aware, Stay Safe and Stay Hornet Strongl

Sincerely

Bill Hopper,

American Rescue Plan Act Eligibility and Priority Guidelines

A. Eligibility Requirements for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

- 1. Enrolled at Alabama State University on or after March 13, 2020
- 2. Eligible to receive one of the following need based federal programs to demonstrate exceptional need.
 - Pell Grant-Undergraduate students
 - Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)-Undergraduate students
 - Federal Workstudy (FWS)-Undergraduate and Graduate
 - Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) who would otherwise be eligible based on the above criteria
- 3. Emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus such as tuition, food, housing, health care and child care to be determined by the student.
- 4. Priority will be given to domestic undergraduate students by allocating funds to domestic Pell and FSEOG recipients. Then, work study recipients whether graduate or undergraduate not covered by the Pell and FSEOG requirements will be assisted.

B. Priority Guidelines

Priority will be given to exceptional need by one of the following categories.

- 1. Eligible to receive Pell, FSEOG, or Federal Work study.
- Inability to pay outstanding balances as a result of hardships caused by Coronavirus and eligible for Pell, FSEOG or FWS as indicated in the eligibility requirements stated in section A number 2.
 - Amount may vary depending on need.
 - The amount to be determined by Student Accounts.
 - Written Authorization required from the student to apply funds to their balance.
 - Failure to authorize funds to be applied to the students balance does not constitute ineligibility to receive funds.



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VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Greetings Hornets:

We just wanted to provide you with a brief update regarding the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Our staff has been working diligently and we are happy to provide you with this update. We have completed the disbursement for the Exceptional Needs Population which was mandated by the Federal Government. Currently, we are disbursing funds to the final two priority levels who were enrolled in the University on or before October 15, 2021 who had Emergency costs which arose due to Coronavirus such as tuition, food, housing, health care and child care.

The disbursement of funds to this population will be completed by Friday, December 10, 2021. This will complete our Fall Disbursements for the American Rescue Plan Act Grant. In the case that you have lost your BankMobile card or have never registered with BankMobile and *have not* received funds in any of the previous batches (via completing a signed Authorization Form or through Bankmobile) please follow the steps below:

- Visit refundselection.com
- When you are asked for a code, click on the "Need A Code?" link.
- Follow the steps to receive your code and then enter it as directed.
- Then, follow the directions to select whether you would like your funds to be placed on a BankMobile Vibe account or directly to your personal bank account.

Once you have completed the registration process, then the University will be able to deposit your ARP Act 2021 grant funds.

We hope that these grants will help to alleviate any undue financial burdens that our students encountered during the pandemic.

If you have any questions or to receive assistance, please forward an email to Americanrescueplan@alasu.edu.

Remember Stay Aware, Stay Safe and Stay Hornet Strong!

Sincerely

Bill Hopper,



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VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Good Afternoon,

Below you will find the criteria for the Final Priority Level for the American Rescue Plan Act Student Aid Funds.

• Enrolled in the University on or before October 15, 2021 who had emergency costs which arose due to Coronavirus such as tuition, food, housing, health care and child care.

Sincerely,

William Hopper