

## **Tulane University's Allocation to Students of Grants from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF II) Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF I) Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Phase 4 Model**

In accordance with U.S. Department of Education (DOE) guidelines, Tulane University is awarding:

- Tulane's CARES Act Phase 4 Model (after exhausting Phases 1, 2, and 3 Models for the spring 2020 semester) for the allocation of the remainder of the student-only portion of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF I) grants (approximately \$193,000 remaining available) to eligible Tulane students; and
- The student-only portion of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds II (HEERF II) grants (approximately \$2,795,000 available) to eligible Tulane students.

### **Identifying Eligible Students**

Tulane University's methodology in allocating the remaining HEERF I funding under Tulane's Phase 4 Model focuses on students (undergraduate, graduate, or professional, in a program delivered on-ground, online, or by a hybrid of the two) meeting the following criteria:

- Who were enrolled at Tulane University for the 2020 spring semester as of March 13, 2020; AND
- Who were enrolled at Tulane University for the 2020 summer semester; AND
- Who completed a 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); AND
- Whose application for federal student aid and resulting 2019-2020 federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC) have been identified as complete and valid by the conclusion of the 2020 spring semester by the University Financial Aid Office.

Tulane University's methodology in allocating the HEERF II funding focuses on students (undergraduate, graduate, or professional, in a program delivered on-ground, online, or by a hybrid of the two) meeting the following criteria:

- Who were enrolled at Tulane University for the 2021 spring semester\* (after the "Last Day to Register/Add," defined by the Tulane Registrar as occurring on 1/29/2021); AND
- Who completed a 2020-2021 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); AND
- Whose application for federal student aid and resulting federal 2020-2021 Expected Family Contribution (EFC) have been identified as complete and valid by the conclusion of the 2021 spring semester by the University Financial Aid Office.

### **Identifying Eligible Enrollment Periods**

After identifying those eligible students meeting the aforementioned criteria, our next evaluation looked to identify students who enrolled at Tulane in at least one of these three combinations:

- Enrolled for the 2020 spring semester as of 03/13/20 AND also enrolled for the 2020 summer semester
- Enrolled for the 2021 spring semester\* AND also enrolled for the 2020 fall semester
- Enrolled for the 2021 spring semester\* only

*\* Enrolled at Tulane University for the 2021 spring semester after the "Last Day to Register/Add," defined by the Tulane Registrar as occurring on 1/29/2021. Note: The University Financial Aid Office will use the Registrar's enrollment data and prevailing academic calendar events in determining a student's enrollment in the 2020 summer semester and/or enrollment in the 2020 fall semester.*

### **Allocation Models**

In efforts to disburse the previously described HEERF grant awards to our eligible students in a fair, equitable, and expedient manner, Tulane established five disbursement models requiring no application from students:

- **2020 Summer Semester Model for Undergraduate and Graduate & Professional Students** for eligible students enrolled for the 2020 spring semester as of 03/13/20 AND the 2020 summer semester (generally representing awards from Tulane's remaining HEERF I student funding levels)
- **2020 Fall Semester Model for Undergraduate Students** for eligible undergraduate students enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\* AND the 2020 fall semester (generally representing awards from Tulane's HEERF II student funding levels)
- **2020 Fall Semester Model for Graduate & Professional Students** for eligible graduate and professional students enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\* AND the 2020 fall semester (generally representing awards from Tulane's HEERF II student funding levels)
- **2021 Spring Semester Model for Undergraduate Students** for eligible undergraduate students enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\* (generally representing awards from Tulane's HEERF II student funding levels)
- **2021 Spring Semester Model for Graduate & Professional Students** for eligible graduate and professional students enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\* (generally representing awards from Tulane's HEERF II student funding levels)

*\* Enrolled at Tulane University for the 2021 spring semester after the "Last Day to Register/Add," defined by the Tulane Registrar as occurring on 1/29/2021. Note: The University Financial Aid Office will use the Registrar's enrollment data and prevailing academic calendar events in determining a student's enrollment in the 2020 summer semester and/or enrollment in the 2020 fall semester.*

## **Identifying Eligible Expenses**

The models seek to provide grants to assist students with the following ongoing pandemic-related expenses:

### **1. Technology Expenses**

During the 2020 summer semester, all Tulane courses were exclusively offered via an on-line delivery format. During the 2020 fall semester and 2021 spring semester, a significant level of Tulane's courses were delivered via an on-line format. We recognize that such an increase in the level of on-line course offerings required students to incur higher than expected technology-related expenses. Specifically, to assure that students can successfully participate in an on-line educational environment, we assumed expenses necessary for adequate internet access.

Research indicates that the average monthly cost for internet connection in the United States is approximately \$56.67. We assumed students are incurring such internet connection expenses for each month of each semester and therefore are incurring on average the following in internet access expenses:

- 2020 summer semester: \$170 (covering 3 months);
- 2020 fall semester: \$280 (covering 5 months);
- 2021 spring semester: \$280 (covering 5 months)

Tulane is using these amounts to represent the estimated maximum average amount that our students have incurred in securing internet access since they need to have such access due to the increased level of on-line coursework and meetings due to the pandemic.

### **2. Health-Related Expenses**

Tulane's methodology identifies that the estimated maximum average amount of health expenses incurred by the identified eligible students each semester is \$280. During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we assume Tulane students incur on average \$280 each semester in health-related expenses. Based on the federal government's health plans requiring an approximate \$200 annual deductible, we believe that our students are incurring an average of \$100 in health expenses by virtue of paying their required health care deductibles for health clinic and prescription costs. In addition, we assume our students continue to purchase masks, disinfectants and cleaning materials, and because published reports indicate that the average amount that Americans are spending on such COVID-19 supplies is approximately \$180, Tulane is using this \$180 amount to represent the estimated maximum average expense that our students have incurred in pandemic health related supply expenses each semester.

Tulane's 2020 Fall Semester Model for Undergraduate Students and Tulane's 2021 Spring Semester Model for Undergraduate Students allocate the highest maximum average expenses (using the two previously identified maximum average expenses) of HEERF grant funding to go to undergraduate students whose federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is in the range to qualify for a Federal Pell Grant. Other ranges and models exercise allocations using the calculated federal EFC as determined using federal methodology and based on reported and finalized FAFSA data for each student on which to base different HEERF grants in amounts less than the total maximum average expenses using the two previously identified maximum average expenses.

Tulane's allocation of previously described HEERF grant funding (both remaining HEERF I funding and HEERF II funding) is limited and prevents the University from awarding every eligible student the estimated maximum average expenses. Generally, our methodology seeks to award higher HEERF grant amounts to students with lower federal Expected Family Contributions (EFCs).

## **Allocation Model Details**

### **1. 2020 Summer Model for All Students (Undergraduate and Graduate & Professional)**

Due to the limited availability of remaining HEERF I funding, this CARES Act Phase 4 model limits HEERF grant awards to eligible students enrolled in the 2020 spring semester as of 03/13/20 AND the 2020 summer semester. Only technology expenses (up to a maximum of \$170 for the 3-month summer period) as previously identified are considered (no health-related expenses).

While the desire is to award the maximum of \$170 to all students, our allocation model was unable to attain this goal due to limited resources. Therefore, using a range based on the EFC as determined via federal methodology and using data

reported on the 2019-2020 FAFSA, Tulane identified the following EFC ranges for the eligible student population enrolled during the 2020 summer semester:

Eligible Students (Undergraduate and Graduate & Professional) 2020 Summer
Range #1: 1920 FM EFC < 5,578
Range #2: 1920 FM EFC 5,578 to 12,000
Range #3: 1920 FM EFC 12,001 to 25,000
Range #4: 1920 FM EFC 25,001 to 50,000
Range #5: 1920 FM EFC 50,001 to 75,000
Range #6: 1920 FM EFC > 75,000

In our allocation model, awards were as follows:

- Students included in the first two (2) range (those with EFCs from \$0 to \$12,000; composed of those in Range #1 and Range #2) receive a HEERF grant award for the estimated average amount of \$170 for technology expenses.
- Students in the next two (2) ranges (those with EFCs from \$12,001 to \$50,000; composed of those in Range #3 and Range #4) only receive a HEERF grant award of \$110 for technology expenses.
- Students in the last two (2) ranges (those with EFCs greater than \$50,000; composed of those in Range #5 and Range #6) do not receive any HEERF grant awards related to technology expenses due to the limitation of available funding.

## 2. 2020 Fall Semester Model for Undergraduate Students

This model limits HEERF grant awards to eligible undergraduate students who enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\* AND who enrolled during the 2020 fall semester. As previously identified, HEERF grant awards included consideration for technology expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period) and for health related expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period).

*\* Enrolled at Tulane University for the 2021 spring semester after the "Last Day to Register/Add," defined by the Tulane Registrar as occurring on 1/29/2021. Note: The University Financial Aid Office will use the Registrar's enrollment data and prevailing academic calendar events in determining a student's enrollment in the 2020 fall semester.*

While the desire is to award the maximum of \$560 to all students, our allocation model was unable to attain this goal due to limited resources. Therefore, using a range based on the expected family contribution (EFC) as determined via federal methodology and using data reported on the 2020-2021 FAFSA, Tulane identified the following EFC ranges for this population of eligible undergraduate students who enrolled during the 2020 fall semester:

Eligible Undergraduate Students 2020 Fall
Range #1: 2021 FM EFC < 5,712; Federal Pell Grant eligible range
Range #2: 2021 FM EFC 5,712 to 12,000
Range #3: 2021 FM EFC 12,001 to 25,000
Range #4: 2021 FM EFC 25,001 to 50,000
Range #5: 2021 FM EFC 50,001 to 75,000
Range #6: 2021 FM EFC > 75,000

In our allocation model, awards were as follows:

- Students included in Range #1 (those considered in the range of eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant having an EFC less than \$5,712) receive a HEERF grant award of \$560, representing \$280 for technology expenses and another \$280 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #2 (with EFCs from \$5,712 to \$12,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$250, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$150 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #3 (with EFCs from \$12,001 to \$25,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$175, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$75 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #4 (with EFCs from \$25,001 to \$50,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$100, representing \$50 for technology expenses and \$50 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #5 (with EFCs from \$50,001 to \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$50, representing \$25 for technology expenses and \$25 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #6 (with EFCs from greater than \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$25, representing \$25 for technology expenses and no funds for health related expenses.

### 3. 2020 Fall Semester Model for Graduate & Professional Students

This model limits HEERF grant awards to eligible graduate and professional students who enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\* AND who enrolled during the 2020 fall semester. As previously identified, HEERF grant awards included consideration for technology expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period) and for health related expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period).

*\* Enrolled at Tulane University for the 2021 spring semester after the "Last Day to Register/Add," defined by the Tulane Registrar as occurring on 1/29/2021. Note: The University Financial Aid Office will use the Registrar's enrollment data and prevailing academic calendar events in determining a student's enrollment in the 2020 fall semester.*

While the desire is to award the maximum of \$560 to all students, our allocation model was unable to attain this goal due to limited resources. Therefore, using a range based on the expected family contribution (EFC) as determined via federal methodology and using data reported on the 2020-2021 FAFSA, Tulane identified the following EFC ranges for this population of eligible graduate and professional students who enrolled during the 2020 fall semester:

Eligible Graduate & Professional Students 2020 Fall
Range #1: 2021 FM EFC < 5,712
Range #2: 2021 FM EFC 5,712 to 12,000
Range #3: 2021 FM EFC 12,001 to 25,000
Range #4: 2021 FM EFC 25,001 to 50,000
Range #5: 2021 FM EFC 50,001 to 75,000
Range #6: 2021 FM EFC > 75,000

In our allocation model, awards were as follows:

- Students included in Range #1 (with an EFC less than \$5,712) receive a HEERF grant award of \$280, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$180 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #2 (with EFCs from \$5,712 to \$12,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$250, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$150 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #3 (with EFCs from \$12,001 to \$25,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$175, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$75 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #4 (with EFCs from \$25,001 to \$50,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$100, representing \$50 for technology expenses and \$50 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #5 (with EFCs from \$50,001 to \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$50, representing \$25 for technology expenses and \$25 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #6 (with EFCs from greater than \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$25, representing \$25 for technology expenses and no funds for health related expenses.

### 4. 2021 Spring Semester Model for Undergraduate Students

This model limits HEERF grant awards to eligible undergraduate students who enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\*. As previously identified, HEERF grant awards included consideration for technology expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period) and for health related expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period).

*\* Enrolled at Tulane University for the 2021 spring semester after the "Last Day to Register/Add," defined by the Tulane Registrar as occurring on 1/29/2021.*

While the desire is to award the maximum of \$560 to all students, our allocation model was unable to attain this goal due to limited resources. Therefore, using a range based on the expected family contribution (EFC) as determined via federal methodology and using data reported on the 2020-2021 FAFSA, Tulane identified the following EFC ranges for this population of eligible undergraduate students who enrolled during the 2021 spring semester:

Eligible Undergraduate Students 2021 Spring
Range #1: 2021 FM EFC < 5,712; Federal Pell Grant eligible range
Range #2: 2021 FM EFC 5,712 to 12,000
Range #3: 2021 FM EFC 12,001 to 25,000
Range #4: 2021 FM EFC 25,001 to 50,000
Range #5: 2021 FM EFC 50,001 to 75,000
Range #6: 2021 FM EFC > 75,000

In our allocation model, awards were as follows:

- Students included in Range #1 (those considered in the range of eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant having an EFC less than \$5,712) receive a HEERF grant award of \$560, representing \$280 for technology expenses and \$280 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #2 (with EFCs from \$5,712 to \$12,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$250, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$150 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #3 (with EFCs from \$12,001 to \$25,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$175, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$75 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #4 (with EFCs from \$25,001 to \$50,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$100, representing \$50 for technology expenses and \$50 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #5 (with EFCs from \$50,001 to \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$50, representing \$25 for technology expenses and \$25 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #6 (with EFCs from greater than \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$25, representing \$25 for technology expenses and no funds for health related expenses.

**5. 2021 Spring Semester Model for Graduate & Professional Students**

This model limits HEERF grant awards to eligible graduate and professional students who enrolled during the 2021 spring semester\*. As previously identified, HEERF grant awards included consideration for technology expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period) and for health related expenses (up to a maximum of \$280 for the 5-month fall period).

*\* Enrolled at Tulane University for the 2021 spring semester after the "Last Day to Register/Add," defined by the Tulane Registrar as occurring on 1/29/2021.*

While the desire is to award the maximum of \$560 to all students, our allocation model was unable to attain this goal due to limited resources. Therefore, using a range based on the expected family contribution (EFC) as determined via federal methodology and using data reported on the 2020-2021 FAFSA, Tulane identified the following EFC ranges for this population of eligible graduate and professional students who enrolled during the 2021 spring semester:

Eligible Graduate & Professional Students 2021 Spring
Range #1: 2021 FM EFC < 5,712
Range #2: 2021 FM EFC 5,712 to 12,000
Range #3: 2021 FM EFC 12,001 to 25,000
Range #4: 2021 FM EFC 25,001 to 50,000
Range #5: 2021 FM EFC 50,001 to 75,000
Range #6: 2021 FM EFC > 75,000

In our allocation model, awards were as follows:

- Students included in Range #1 (with an EFC less than \$5,712) receive a HEERF grant award of \$280, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$180 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #2 (with EFCs from \$5,712 to \$12,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$250, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$150 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #3 (with EFCs from \$12,001 to \$25,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$175, representing \$100 for technology expenses and \$75 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #4 (with EFCs from \$25,001 to \$50,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$100, representing \$50 for technology expenses and \$50 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #5 (with EFCs from \$50,001 to \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$50, representing \$25 for technology expenses and \$25 for health related expenses.
- Students in Range #6 (with EFCs from greater than \$75,000) receive a HEERF grant award of \$25, representing \$25 for technology expenses and no funds for health related expenses.

Tulane estimates that the “no-application” allocation models described above will directly award eligible Tulane students a total of approximately \$193,000 in remaining HEERF I funding for the CARES Act Phase 4 Model at Tulane and the student-only portion of HEERF II funds (approximately \$2,795,000) allocated to Tulane. If any funds remain available after all “no-application” models are processed, Tulane University will seek additional alternative methodologies for making further HEERF student awards until all HEERF grant funding explicitly available to Tulane students via the HEERF I and HEERF II programs are fully depleted.