

Emergency Relief Fund FAQ (CARES) June 2023

What is the CARES Act/HEERF?

The Federal CARES Act establishes and funds the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). Institutions of higher education must use at least 50 percent of the funds they receive from the HEERF to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, and child care).

How much HEERF funding did Berkeley College receive?

Berkeley College has been allocated \$2,298,437.00 in New York and \$2,232,129.00 in New Jersey to provide emergency financial aid grants.

Who is eligible for an HEERF emergency grant?

For the fall 2022, winter 2023, and continuing into the spring 2023 semester (until our remaining allocation is exhausted), we will be awarding self-identifying students who:

- Are taking at least one online course due to continuing concerns about COVID-19
- Who do not have computer access at home

Do I have to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to receive an emergency grant?

No.

Am I eligible for an emergency grant even if I owe the College money?

Yes. If you meet all the other eligibility criteria and certify that you have eligible expenses, you may receive an emergency grant even if you have current open balances with the College.

How will I receive my emergency grant?

The purpose of this rendition of Berkeley College's HEERF distribution is to supply laptops to students that have self-identified. If you choose to receive the funds yourself then the emergency grants will be received via BankMobile, if you have any questions about BankMobile, please contact saonline@BerkeleyCollege.edu.

When will I receive my emergency grant?

Application approvals will be made on a rolling basis, as they are received.

What happens if I do not participate in classes for the term the award is made?

In order to provide access to laptops as quickly as possible, we will process the emergency grants before the semester begins and participation in classes is confirmed. Should a student receive a laptop, or a refund for a laptop purchase and then not attend for the awarded semester, the emergency grant will be revoked and the student will be billed for the laptop or refund, accordingly.

What if I need more money than the emergency grant I receive?

The purpose of this current version of the HEERF Program is specifically to get laptops to students. That does not mean you do not have other financial needs. If you are having substantial financial difficulties, please reach out to Financial Aid at StudentFinance@BerkeleyCollege.edu