Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Report Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund ("HEERF" I) established in accordance with Section 18004 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act, and CRRSSA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act) The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund ("HEERF" II) provides funds to institutions of higher education to offer emergency financial aid grants to students or 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).

Berkeley College of New Jersey, OPE ID: 00750200 ("Berkeley-NJ"), and Berkeley College of New York, OPE ID: 00739400 ("Berkeley-NY"), are providing this information to the public in accordance with the Electronic Announcement of May 6, 2020 by the U.S. Department of Education ("Department"). For questions or concerns regarding this Report, please contact StudentFinance@BerkeleyCollege.edu.

- 1. Berkeley-NJ and Berkeley-NY each (a) signed and returned to the Department a Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CARES Act ("USDOE Agreement") and (b) has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.
- 2. Berkeley-NJ and Berkeley-NY each (a) signed and returned to the Department a Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under CRRSAA: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERFII) ("USDOE Agreement") and (b) has used, or intends to use, 100 percent of the funds received under Section 314(a)(3) of the CRRSAA to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.
- 3. Berkeley-NJ and Berkeley-NY each (a) signed and returned to the Department a Supplemental Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under ARF (PL117-2): Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERFIII) ("USDOE Agreement") and (b) intends to use, 100 percent of the funds received to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.
- 4. The total amount of funds that Berkeley-NJ will receive, from HEERF I, II, and III or has received from the Department pursuant to its USDOE Agreement is \$6,392,732. The total amount of funds that Berkeley-NY will receive, from HEERF I, II, and III or has received from the Department pursuant to its USDOE Agreement is \$6,724,209.
- 5. The total cumulative amount of emergency financial aid grants distributed by Berkeley-NJ to students from HEERF I, II, and III as of the date of this Report is \$4,998,097.65. The total quarterly (July 1, 2021- September 30, 2021) amount for Berkeley-NJ was \$21,571.00The total cumulative amount of emergency financial aid grants distributed by Berkeley-NY to students, from HEERF I, II and III, as of the date of this Report is

- \$4,764,108.00. The total quarterly (July 1, 2021- September 30, 2021) amount for Berkeley-NY was \$59,585.94.
- 6. The estimated total number of students at Berkeley-NJ 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 under HEERF I, II, and III, as of September 30, 2021, is 6,802. The estimated total number of students at Berkeley-NY 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 under HEERF I, II, and III, as of September 30, 2021 is 5,867. Note that the estimated number of eligible students indicated above was increased from prior reports by including students enrolled in the Fall 2021 semester even though we have yet to disburse funds in this semester.
- 7. The total cumulative number of Berkeley-NJ students who have received an emergency financial aid grant from HEERF I, II, and III, as of the date of this Report (Fall awards have yet to be made) is 3,298. The total quarterly (July 1, 2021- September 30, 2021) amount for Berkeley-NJ was 24. The total cumulative number of Berkeley-NY students who have received an emergency financial aid grant, from HEERF I, II, and III, as of the date of this Report (Fall awards have yet to be made) is 3,142. The total quarterly (July 1, 2021- September 30, 2021) amount for Berkeley-NY was 29.
- 8. The methods used by Berkeley-NJ and Berkeley-NY to determine which students receive emergency financial aid grants and how much they would receive under HEERF I and II (HEERF III have not yet been determined or awarded) are:
- 9. As new guidance was provided by the Department, we made changes to policy, all of which is documented on our website (see below). Students potentially eligible for an emergency financial aid grant were identified and sent a link to an electronic application. The application requires students to certify that they incurred expenses equal to or greater than the amount of emergency financial aid grant requested and that such expenses were 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). For HEERF I, a maximum grant amount of \$1,245 per student was established based in part on the maximum amount of Personal Expenses of the Cost of Attendance for the Winter 2020 term. The application deadline was June 26, 2020. A second application phase commenced shortly thereafter to include students enrolled in the Spring 2020 term based on the June 30, 2020 guidance from the Department, updated on August 6, 2020. A maximum grant amount of \$800 per student was established for the second phase based on the amount of funds remaining. The application deadline for the second phase of HEERF I was August 14, 2020.
- 10. For HEERF II we followed a similar philosophy as HEERF I, however, this time we prioritized zero EFC students. Our last priority, as per guidance, is undocumented students. As of this date we are determining how much funds we can offer that population. For HEERF II the maximum award was \$1400 and the deadline was June 30, 2021. At this time we know, based on our remaining HEERF II funding, that the maximum for undocumented students will be far less than \$1,400.

11. Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by Berkeley-NJ and Berkeley-NY to students concerning the emergency financial aid grants are as follows:

A pdf version of the <u>electronic application for emergency financial aid grants</u> is available. In addition, <u>Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ")</u> have been developed. The FAQ can also been found on the institutional website and is also available to any student who contacts Berkeley-NJ or Berkeley-NY for more information.

Updated: October 7, 2021