

## **Peru State College CARES Act March, 2022, Fund Report**

In March 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) was signed into law authorizing the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III), providing additional pandemic relief funding totally \$39.6 billion to support institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. HEERF funding was initially established through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (HEERF I) and expanding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act (HEERF II).

Peru State College has begun distribution of HEERF III grant funds. Specifically, these funds may be used for “emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).”

For HEERF III funds, the Department of Education requires that institutions prioritize assistance to students with exceptional need in accordance with federal guidelines. Funds in the amount of \$3,000 are automatically awarded to students who meet the following criteria:

Pell-eligible or have an expected family contribution (EFC) of \$10,000 or less

Enrolled full-time as an undergraduate

Peru State College was allocated \$1,674,511 in HEERF III funds under ARP section 314(a)(1) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

As of March 31, 2022, Peru State College has distributed a total of \$1,674,511 in HEERF III grant funds to students.

As of March 31, 2022, 661 students have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under HEERF III.

Grant recipients were selected based on the criteria outlined above.

Funding recipients received the following instructions and guidance related to the HEERF III funding:

Thank you for your application to receive financial assistance under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

You have been approved for \$X.

In coming days, the award will be processed. Please contact the One Stop Office at (402) 872-2228 if you have any questions or concerns about this award.

Please note that you may be eligible to apply again at a later date.