The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III), authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and signed into law on March 11, 2021 provides $39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II), authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), was signed into law on December 27, 2020.

The following information is provided by Pine Technical and Community College in response to the Department of Education’s reporting requirements.

1. An acknowledgment that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that this institution has used the applicable amount of funds designative under the ARP program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Pine Technical and Community College (PTCC) signed and submitted the Certificate and Agreement for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the HEERF I - Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act on April 17, 2020 which included assurances to use at least 50% of the total CARES Act allocation for student emergency funds.

PTCC has received notification of a supplemental HEERF III award through the American Rescue Plan Act, but as a recipient of HEERF I - CARES Act funding, was not required to submit a certification agreement for the HEERF III award. PTCC intends to use the applicable amount of funds designated under the ARP program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the ARP program.

On May 11, 2021, PTCC was notified of a supplemental HEERF III award from the American Rescue Plan Act in the amount of $1,252,456.00 for emergency financial aid grants to students.

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the ARP program.

Q3 2021: $394,678 July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021
4. **The estimated total number of students at the institution that are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the ARP program.**

Based on the expanded use of funds authority under the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), the pool of eligible students expanded to include all enrolled students PTCC identified 640 eligible students as of the Summer and Fall 2021 terms.

5. **The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the ARP program.**

Six hundred and ten unduplicated students received Emergency Financial Aid Grants during Q3, 2021. One hundred thirteen students received Emergency Federal Financial Aid Grants as part of the Summer 2021 distribution on August 5, 2021. Five hundred sixty-eight students received Emergency Financial Aid Grants as part of the Fall 2021 distribution on September 30, 2021. Recipients may have received Summer and Fall grants. Additional distributions were made to students for emergency grants through application, and 3 students was awarded an emergency grants through application.

6. **The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the ARP program.**

Students enrolled for Summer 2021 received $500.00. Full time students enrolled for Fall 2021 received $650.00 and part time students received $500.00. This direct payment was to cover the cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arose due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. All payments were sent directly to students by check or direct deposit.

Students who met the ARP Act eligibility could apply for additional emergency grant funds by completing an application for additional funds. Consideration for these funds included the areas of food insecurity, housing, course materials, technology, health care, student debt, child care and other COVID-impacted expenses.

Ineligible students included: PSEO and Concurrent high school students and students enrolled entirely non-credit courses (continuing education), students whose tuition was covered fully by a third-party were not eligible to receive funds, students enrolled in hour-based courses (continuing education and customized training), and students enrolled in the 2nd Chance Pell program.

Approval of the spending plan was given both by student leaders and the Minnesota State Chancellor's Office.
7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

PTCC sent distinct messages regarding the HEERF III funding opportunities.

- CARES Communication Samples
- CRRSAA Communication Samples
- ARP Communication Samples