

**Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF III)
under the American Rescue Plan (ARP)
Emergency Relief Grants for Students
December 31, 2021– Quarterly Report**

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021. Public and private non-profit IHEs that already had received HEERF funding from the CARES or CRRSAA Act were not required to submit a new or revised application to receive additional funding under the ARP. Northern Wyoming Community College (NWCCD) had previously been allotted \$1,175,360 in funding for emergency grants to students from the HEERF I and HEERF II programs. On May 12, 2021, NWCCD was allotted an additional \$2,586,087 designated for financial aid grants to students. Because our president, Dr. Walt Tribley, had already signed a Certification and Agreement for the first disbursement of HEERF funds, we were only required to draw down a small claim from the HEERF III funding, within 90 days, to extend the terms of the original grant contract. We claimed \$100 of HEERF III funding on July 27, 2021, meeting this requirement.

Directors from NWCCD’s Financial Aid and Business Office felt that it was important to provide aid to students to assist them in both the fall 2021 semester and spring 2022 semester. The awards will be processed and disbursed by the eighth week of each term to allow staff the time to properly administer the grant. Fall 2021 grant awards were processed on October 19, 2021. Student payments were processed on October 20, 2021. Direct deposit transactions were sent to the bank immediately, paper checks were mailed by October 22, 2021.

In summary, 1,638 students were eligible for grant awards ranging from \$400 to \$1200. NWCCD processed a total of \$1,341,800 in distributions to all 1,638 students for the fall 2021 term. Further breakdown of the fall 2021 distribution is provided below:

Distribution Table: HEERF III					
Exceptional Need Prioritization				Award	Distribution
Pell eligible	EFC \$0-\$5,846	645			
Full-time	Group A	451		\$1,200.00	\$541,200.00
Part-time	Group B	194		\$600.00	\$116,400.00
Subsidized Fed					
Loan eligible	EFC \$5,847-\$19,583	229			
Full-time	Group C	165		\$1,000.00	\$165,000.00
Part-time	Group D	64		\$500.00	\$32,000.00
Unsubsidized Fed					
Loan eligible	EFC \$19,584+	233			
Full-time	Group E	173		\$800.00	\$138,400.00
Part-time	Group F	60		\$400.00	\$24,000.00
All other eligible students (no FAFSA, international, etc.)					
Full-time	Group G	281		\$800.00	\$224,800.00
Part-time	Group H	250		\$400.00	\$100,000.00
Total HEERF III Disbursement, 21/FA:					\$1,341,800.00

Eligible Students: NWCCD determined that 1,638 students met the eligibility requirements of being currently enrolled at the time of disbursement and degree-seeking. This includes full-time and part-time students who are enrolled in a degree program. International, undocumented, and on-line only students are included. This excludes students with academic program codes of CE (Continuing Education), HE (Higher Education Student-WyClass), HS (High School), MSHA (MSHA Only Students), and PD (Personal or Professional Development).

Prioritization Requirements: Institutions must prioritize students with exceptional need and domestic students which includes citizens, permanent residents, refugees, asylum seekers, DACA recipients, other DREAMers, and similar undocumented students. For NWCCD, this singles out only international students who are in the country on an F-1 VISA. These international students do not complete FAFSA applications, therefore they are included in the lowest tier of our distribution table.

As required, HEERF III Institutional dollars were used to reach out to students and encourage them to meet with financial aid counselors if their income has changed significantly from what is reported on their FAFSA. This could have an impact on the amount of HEERF III Student Aid Grant they would receive. Students were sent a postcard via USPS and email messages to all email addresses we have on record. Copies of the messages are shown below:

Postcard



SHERIDAN COLLEGE | FINANCIAL AID INFO

Dear Students,

Have you or your family lost a job or had a drop in income?

If you or your family's financial situation has changed significantly from what is on your 2019 federal tax return, you may be eligible to have adjustment made to

your 2021-2022 FAFSA application.

Step 1: Complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA

Complete the [2021-2022 FAFSA](#) questions as instructed on the application, with 2019 federal tax return information.

Please make sure to include our school code 003930

Step 2: Contact the Financial Aid Office

Contact the Financial Aid Office about your circumstances and to learn if you are eligible for a financial aid adjustment.

Financial Aid Office contact information:

Sheridan campus: [307-675-0200](tel:307-675-0200)

Gillette campus: [307-681-6042](tel:307-681-6042)

Email: financialaid@sheridan.edu

We're here to help if you have any questions about Financial Aid.

Heidi Balster

Director of Financial Aid

1 Whitney Way

Sheridan, WY 82801

[307.675.0201](tel:307.675.0201)

hbalster@sheridan.edu

GILLETTE COLLEGE | FINANCIAL AID INFO

Dear Students,

Have you or your family lost a job or had a drop in income?

If you or your family's financial situation has changed significantly from what is on your 2019 federal tax return, you may be eligible to have adjustment made to your 2021-2022 FAFSA application.

Step 1: Complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA

Complete the [2021-2022 FAFSA](#) questions as instructed on the application, with 2019 federal tax return information.

Please make sure to include our school code 003930

Step 2: Contact the Financial Aid Office

Contact the Financial Aid Office about your circumstances and to learn if you are eligible for a financial aid adjustment.

Financial Aid Office contact information:

Phone: [307-681-6042](tel:307-681-6042)

Email: financialaid@sheridan.edu

We're here to help if you have any questions about Financial Aid.

Heidi Balster

Director of Financial Aid

1 Whitney Way

Sheridan, WY 82801

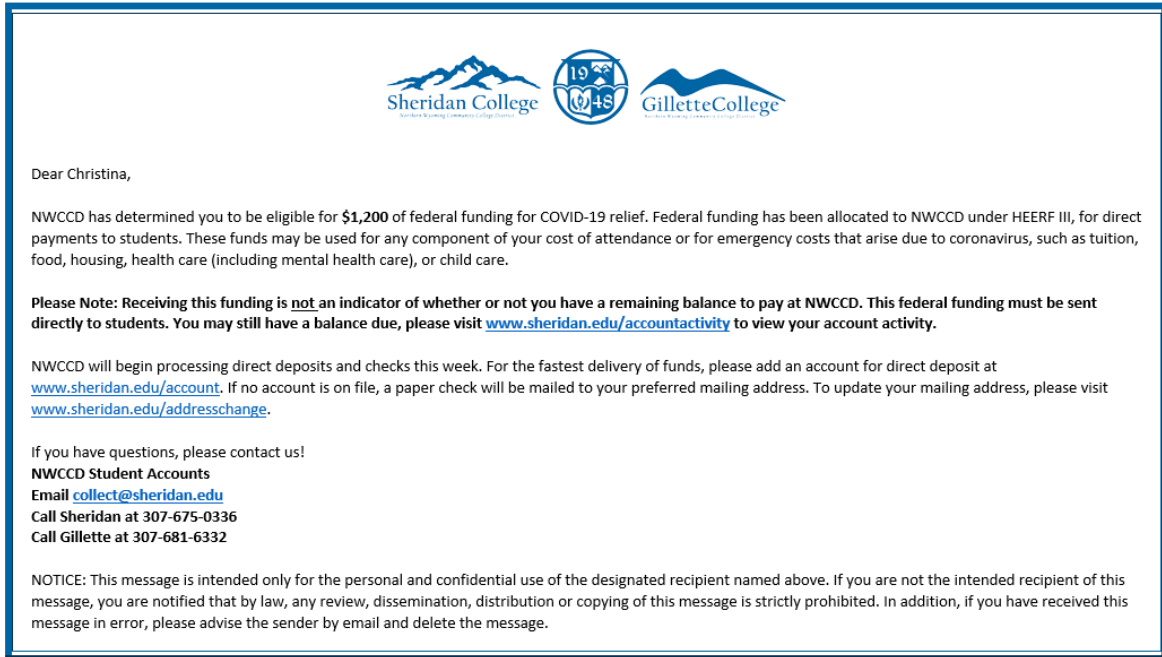
[307.675.0201](tel:307.675.0201)

hbalster@sheridan.edu

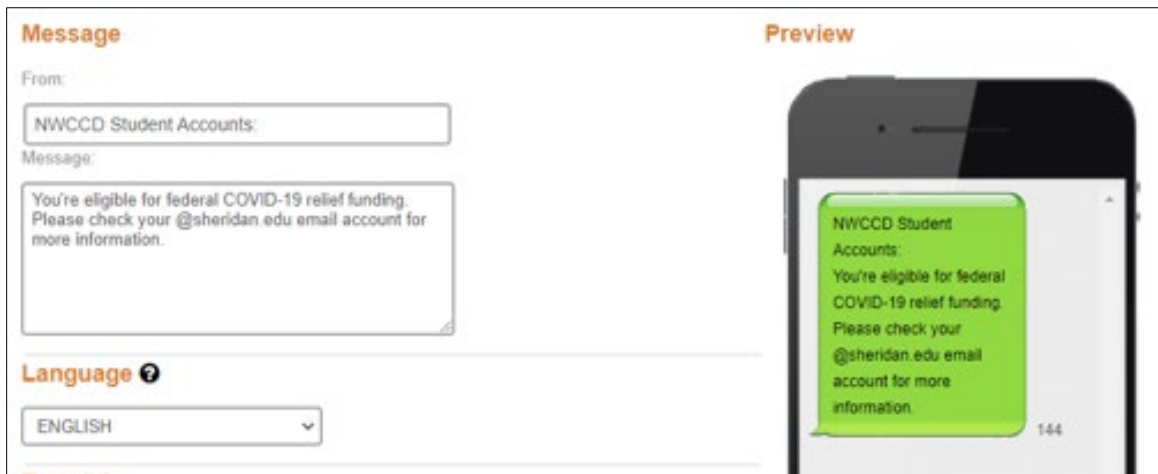
Notification: Department of Education requires that it is clear to the students that this funding is to be used towards expenses related to their cost of attendance (tuition, food, housing, personal or health care, mental health care or childcare). For HEERF I we required a signed request to receive the grant. Response was much lower than expected. For HEERF II we did not require a request. We did have one student who refused to cash the check. For HEERF III we did not require the request, but sent out notifications via email, text message and the message on the direct deposit or check.

When the grant award is posted to the student account, they received this message to their @sheridan.edu student email:

From: NWCCD Student Accounts <collect@sheridan.edu>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:25 PM
To: Grammens, Christina <cgrammens@SHERIDAN.EDU>
Subject: \$1,200 HEERF III Direct Payment



Students were also sent a text message that directed them to their school email because we know that students don't always check and read their email:



Those students who have elected direct deposit of payments from us received this message to their school emails address:

Dear @CHK.MISC.NAME,

You are receiving this email because you have received a direct payment from HEERF grant funding.

NWCCD has received federal funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. A portion of this funding for Higher Education Emergency Relief (HEERF) is designated for direct payments to students.

HEERF funding is designated for you to use on any component of your Cost of Attendance, i.e. tuition and fees, books and supplies, or other basic living expenses. HEERF funding can also be used to help you with emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, health care (including mental), or childcare.

If you have any questions, please contact the Financial Aid Office on your campus or email us at wecare@sheridan.edu.

Sheridan - 307-675-0200

Gillette - 307-681-6041

Students who received a paper check mailed via USPS have this message printed on the check stub:

Dear NWCCD Student,

You are receiving this check because you have received a direct payment from HEERF grant funding.

NWCCD has received federal funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. A portion of this funding for Higher Education Emergency Relief (HEERF) is designated for **direct payments to students**.

HEERF funding is **designated for you to use on any component of your Cost of Attendance**, i.e. tuition and fees, books and supplies, or other basic living expenses. HEERF funding can also **be used to help you with emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus**, such as food, housing, health care (including mental), or childcare.

If you have any questions, please contact the Financial Aid Office on your campus or email us at wecare@sheridan.edu.

Sheridan - 307-675-0200

Gillette - 307-681-6041

Drops, Withdrawals, and Never Attended: HEERF III grant recipients that drop a class(es), fully withdrawal from 2021 fall semester, or are later marked as Never Attended (NSP) remained eligible for the grant award if they were enrolled at the time of disbursement.