

American Rescue Plan – Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) III Reporting

American Rescue Plan – Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) III Grants to Students Required Report (posted 8/20/21)

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2). The ARP appropriated funds for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) and represents the third stream of funding appropriated for HEERF to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. HEERF III allows higher education institutions to use these appropriated funds to support students, and the institution itself, with expenses and financial needs related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The following information is provided by Bentley University as required by the Department of Education (“ED”) in order to comply with the reporting requirements under the ARP Act. The first report is required to be posted within 30 days of the first disbursement of the funds, which occurred on July 28, 2021; subsequent updates are required no more than ten days after each quarter, thereafter, ending with the date on which all funds are expended.

- 1. An acknowledgement that the institution has used, or intends to use, the same amount of HEERF II funds for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students as offered to students for HEERF III under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2).**

Institutions who received HEERF I and II Grant funds under the CARES and CRSSA Act were not required to submit an application for the HEERF III Grant. Bentley University received its HEERF III Grant award notification on May 13, 2021. In keeping with the terms of acceptance of these funds, Bentley University will use no less than \$3,476,373, American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2), to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students..

- 2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2).**

Bentley University has been allocated \$6,952,746 under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2), of which \$3,476,373 will be provided directly to students with expenses related to the COVID-19 crisis. As of August 19, 2021, the University received \$153,000 of the student portion of this award and \$153,000 of the institutional portion of this award.

- 3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2), as of the date of submission.**

As of August 23, 2021, Bentley University has distributed \$381,000

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2).

As of the date of the initial 30-day Disclosure, Bentley estimates that 2,000 students will be eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under ARP.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2).

As of the date of the initial 30-day Disclosure, 127 students have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants under ARP.

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 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2).

Emergency Financial Aid Grants will be distributed in tiers.

The following criteria was used for the first tier awarded to first year students (includes freshman and transfers):

- Filed a valid Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that confirms citizenship status.
- First year student (freshman or transfer) currently enrolled for the Fall 2021 term, as of July 6, 2021.
- Federal and institutional Expected Family Contribution less than \$35,000
- Unmet institutional need greater than \$3,000.

The University is in the process of determining the criteria to be used for the remaining tiers.

6. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Emails were sent to students on July 19, 2021 and August 10, 2021 indicating how much their award was and instructions on how to receive the funds