



(1) Acknowledgement

The University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) executed an agreement with the U. S. Department of Education to accept funds from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), and American Rescue Plan (ARP). UVI has, and will continue to use, the funds designated under each program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants and other assistance to its students.

(2) Funds Received

As of September 30, 2021, UVI received total funds of \$4,554,658 for student needs as follows: \$856,869 HEERF, \$856,869 CRRSAA, and \$2,840,920 ARP (a)(1) programs.

(3) Funds Distributed

As of September 30, 2021, UVI distributed \$2,022,016.70 of that amount directly to students. The remainder of the funds will be distributed to students during the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters.

(4) Eligible Students

UVI identified the following eligible students per semester under CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs:

Spring 2020	1,944
Summer 2020	772
Fall 2020	772
Spring 2021	1,743
Summer 2021	798
Fall 2021	1,655

(5) Students Who Received Aid

The total number of students who received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs was 2,757.

(6) Funding Methodology

UVI returned the \$75 graduation fee to graduating seniors for the Spring 2020 and December 2020 semesters due to graduations being held in a virtual setting instead of in person. UVI distributed \$75 to 158 students for a total of \$11,850.

UVI distributed funds, totaling \$1.76 million, to students to assist with technology-related expenses, as follows:

- May 2020 - distributed a \$375 Technology Award to 1,784 students for a total of \$669,000.
- February 2021 - distributed a \$500 Technology Award to 1,529 students for a total of \$764,500.
- September 2021 - distributed a \$500 Technology Award to 653 students for a total of \$326,500.

UVI convened a Compelling Circumstances Committee that allowed students to submit applications for additional funding through the CARES Act. UVI distributed \$250,166.70 to 105 students through the Compelling Circumstances Committee.

(7) Instructions, Direction, and Guidance

Students who face unusual and compelling financial losses due to COVID-19 were able to submit requests and be eligible for additional special support for demonstrated genuine increased expenditures and hardships. Students completed an online application in which they provided information on their circumstances, as well as any supporting documentation. A three-person Administrative panel regularly met and reviewed all information received, including a student's financial aid and Pell grant eligibility or recipient status, and the panel made final decisions and recommendations. Some examples of an unusual and compelling financial loss or hardship are the loss of a job due to COVID-19 that the student planned to use to pay tuition or other costs of attendance; unusual medical expenditures or healthcare including mental health related to the pandemic; documented housing expenditures because a student was unable to live at home due to the pandemic; increased childcare expenses as a result of remote learning; and learning tools or equipment needed for persistence in class, etc.