About the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III)

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III ("HEERF III") is authorized by the American Rescue Plan ("ARP"), signed into law on March 11, 2021, and represents the third stream of funding for HEERF. Taken together, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act"), the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act ("CRRSAA"), and the ARP represent HEERF I, HEERF II, and HEERF III, respectively.

On May 14, 2021, the Department of Education ("ED") provided a broader definition of "student" for purposes of the phrases "grants to students," "emergency financial aid grants to students," and "financial aid grants to students" as used in the HEERF programs under CARES, CRRSAA, and ARP. According to this broader definition, students who are or were enrolled in an institution of higher education on or after March 13, 2020, during the COVID-19 national emergency, are eligible for emergency financial aid grants from the HEERF, regardless of whether they completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or are eligible for Title IV. In ED's ARP FAQs issued in May 2021, ED encourages institutions to prioritize domestic students, especially undergraduates, in allocating this funding. Domestic students include citizens, permanent residents, refugees, asylum seekers, DACA recipients, other DREAMers, and similar undocumented students. International students may also receive HEERF.

The following information is provided by Loyola University of Chicago (the "University") as required by ED in order to comply with the reporting requirements regarding HEERF III. This is the University's final progress report regarding the HEERF III Student Share Grants and presents information as of December 31, 2021.

As of September 30, 2021, the University published its policy regarding the HEERF III Student Share Grant Funds.

1. CERTIFICATION AND AGREEMENT

On April 17, 2020, the University signed and returned to ED the Certification and Agreement regarding the HEERF I funds under the CARES Act. The ARP authorized supplemental awards to existing Student Aid Portion and Institutional Portion grantees. As such, the University was not required to submit a new or revised application to ED to receive these new funds.

2. AMOUNTS TO BE RECEIVED

The University is eligible to receive up to $13,857,311 in HEERF III Student Share Grant Funds. The University received confirmation of the availability of these funds on May 15, 2021. As of the date of this report, the University has drawn all of the HEERF III Student Share funds on a reimbursement basis.
3. **AMOUNTS DISTRIBUTED TO DATE**

As of the date of this report, the University distributed $13,857,311, representing all of the available HEERF III Student Share Grant funds.

Please refer to the University’s final progress reports concerning HEERF I Student Share and HEERF II Student Share distributions.

4. **ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS**

Under the updated definition of student provided by ED on May 14, 2021, the University estimates that over 25,000 students are eligible for the HEERF III Student Share Grant Funds, including students who are or were enrolled on or after March 13, 2020 in associate’s, bachelor’s, graduate, and professional programs, at the University.

5. **NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED HEERF III STUDENT SHARE GRANTS**

The University distributed the HEERF III Student Share Grant funds to approximately 8,100 students. The HEERF III Student Share grants ranged from $2,500 to $500 per student, prioritizing those students with exceptional need.

Please refer to the University’s final progress reports concerning HEERF I Student Share and HEERF II Student Share distributions.

6. **METHOD OF DETERMINING WHICH STUDENTS WOULD RECEIVE HEERF III STUDENT SHARE GRANTS**

The University’s policy outlines the method of determining which students are eligible for HEERF III Student Share Grants. The policy incorporates ED’s updated definition of “student,” ED’s guidance that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, and other guidance provided by ED.

7. **INSTRUCTIONS, DIRECTIONS AND GUIDANCE REGARDING HEERF III STUDENT SHARE GRANTS**

Information to assist students in understanding eligibility, the application process, and other relevant information was shared via a variety of communication processes including HEERF III website postings, frequently asked questions, emails to both current and former students, and social media.