

Reporting Information for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III as authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Student Aid Portion

Updated October 8, 2021 – There have been no updates or additional ARPA Emergency Grants disbursed to Students since our last report.

1. On May 18, 2021, Bucknell University received a Grant Award Notification from the U. S. Department of Education awarding \$2,444,201 in ARPA (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III) – Student Aid Portion funding.

The University decided to distribute the Student Aid Portion of ARPA funding in a similar manner as we did CRRSA funding:

- Students must have been enrolled for the Spring 2021 semester in at least one ground-based class and in a Title IV eligible degree-seeking program as of May 1, 2021.
- Bucknell identified students who satisfied preliminary criteria: (1) had a 2020- 2021 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with the University, or had an International Financial Aid Application on file with the University; (2) had demonstrated financial need according to their calculated Federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC) or were awarded international Bucknell need-based aid.
- Students meeting the criteria set forth above were grouped into categories based on their Federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC) in order to distribute the highest amount of aid to the highest need students. Based on ranges of EFC, grants were awarded to students in the amounts of \$3,167, \$2,659, \$2,167, \$2,257, \$1,859, \$1,810, \$1,557, \$1,508, \$1,260, \$1,133 and \$1,078.
- On June 1, 2021, we distributed \$2,443,068 in ARPA funds to 1468 students. On June 14, 2021, we distributed an additional \$1,133, for a total of \$2,444,201.
- Bucknell University emailed eligible students on May 24, 2021, informing them of the following:
 - Bucknell University was awarded federal funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
 - These funds are to be awarded as ARPA Emergency Grants to Bucknell students to assist with expenses related to Bucknell’s cost of attendance or emergency costs due to the coronavirus. Such expenses include costs associated with tuition, fees, food, housing, health care and childcare.
 - The University distributed awards to students who completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2020-2021 academic year and demonstrated financial need at Bucknell, as well as to international students who applied for aid and demonstrated financial need.
 - The funds would automatically be directly deposited in students’ refund accounts set up in Bbill. If a student did not have a refund account set up or preferred deposit to a different account, the student was advised to update their information by Monday, May 31. If no specific direction was provided, the University mailed checks to students with a small processing delay.
 - Students were directed to submit questions about refund accounts to Bursar Services at bursar@bucknell.edu.

- Students who did not experience additional costs related to the coronavirus or who preferred not to receive the aid were asked to notify the University by Monday, May 31 so that aid could be awarded to another student.
- Bucknell would process ARPA Emergency Grants beginning on Tuesday, June 1.