



## MORRIS COLLEGE

100 West College Street  
Sumter, South Carolina 29150-3599  
Telephone: (803) 934-3200  
Fax: (803) 773-3687  
[www.morris.edu](http://www.morris.edu)

### **HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND III (HEERF III) AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARP) OF 2021 CONSUMER INFORMATION AND DISCLOSURE**

On May 21, 2021, Morris College received \$2,051,189 in emergency grant funds for students from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF III) – American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. Morris College signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used the applicable amount of funds designated under the ARP (a)(1) program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

ARP requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding emergency financial aid grants to students. However, students do not need to be only Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants. In addition, the ARP explicitly states that emergency financial aid grants may be provided to students who are exclusively enrolled in distance education. Students may use these funds for any component of the cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), technology, course materials, or child care.

Since 99% of Morris College students are Pell Grant recipients, all 833 were considered to have exceptional need. Morris College's objective in this process was to be transparent and fair to each student to ensure that proper funding was distributed.

As of December 31, 2021, Morris College has awarded \$1,612,184 of the \$2,051,189 from HEERF III - ARP Grant funds to students. Eight hundred thirty-three students were identified as potentially eligible based on the guidance that defined an eligible student as a student enrolled in postsecondary education.

Morris College awarded the emergency grants to all of the 833 eligible students who are or were enrolled in a term between March 13, 2020 and December 6, 2021 [COVID-pandemic period]. The grant amount each student received was based on the number of terms enrolled during the period and full-time or part-time enrollment status. Currently-enrolled students picked their checks up from the distribution location on campus prior to Christmas Break [beginning December 10, 2021]. Checks were mailed to the current home addresses of those not currently enrolled. Check amounts ranged from \$225 to \$4,800, based on enrollment status during the COVID-pandemic period. All funds were disbursed through the Office of Business Affairs.

The Secretary of Education does not consider these individual Emergency grants to constitute Federal Financial Aid under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA). These emergency grant funds were not be used for any purpose other than the direct payments of grants to the students for their expenses related to the coronavirus pandemic. Seventy-nine percent of the student-designated funds received by Morris College from HEERF III - ARP have been expended to the eligible students.

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