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From: **bb-noreply@gallaudet.edu** <donotreply@blackboard.com>

Date: Thu, Mar 24, 2022 at 1:53 PM

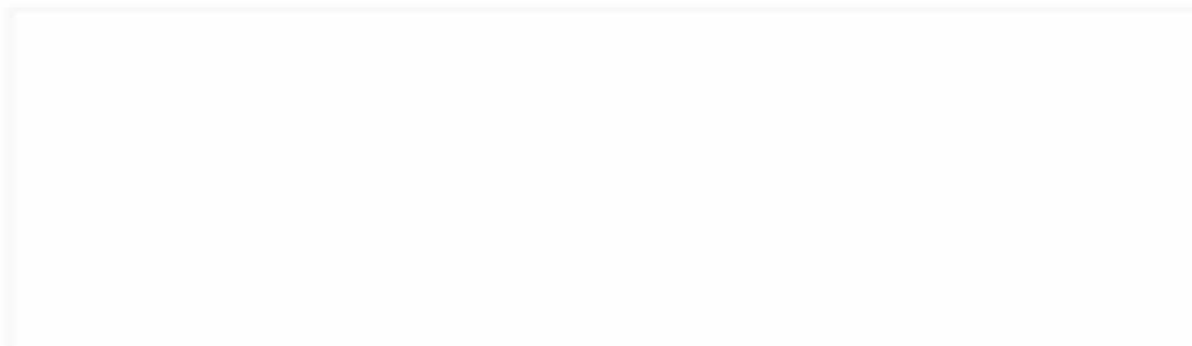
Subject: [External] Dr Thomas Horejcs sent you a new message in HEERF Funding - Gallaudet University

To:

HEERF\_Funding

HEERF Funding - Gallaudet University

**New message from Dr Thomas Horejcs**



**Dear all,**

Good afternoon - this is a friendly reminder that for any changes how you want your HEERF funds to be sent to you (either directly via HEARTLAND ECSI or mailed), **you must make these changes no later than this Sunday, March 27th, 2022.** Please see our recent email to you all earlier this week (see also below) for details.

Again, the HEERF funds will be disbursed through HEARTLAND ECSI.

- If you already have direct deposit, make sure it goes where you want it to go from your ECSI account. If your information is correct, no action is required on your part.
- If you do not have direct deposit, we strongly recommend that you set it up through logging into your Heartland/ECSI account. **(Information about Heartland - ASL video link)** before **March 27, 2022.** If we do not have your account by March 27, 2022, it will be sent to the address on file with ECSI. Please note that changing your address at Gallaudet will not automatically update your address through ECSI.

Sincerely,

Brad Hermes

Chief Financial Officer

Thomas Horejes, Ph.D.

Associate Provost for Student Success & Academic Quality

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PREVIOUS EMAIL sent during week of March 21, 2022.

**ASL video link of the message:**

**ASL video message from CFO Brad Hermes & Assoc. Provost Thomas Horejes**

Dear Gallaudet students:

Since March 2020, our Bison community has been impacted by the global pandemic due to COVID-19; however, as a community, we should be proud of the strides we have made in protecting ourselves during this pandemic. Despite the challenges we have all faced during this time, our Bison community continues to be stronger than ever, and in working together, we were able to return home for the Fall 2021 semester. However, we do acknowledge that the economic impacts of COVID-19 are still amongst us and continue to impact our students.

Gallaudet University is committed to supporting our students in addressing affordability and alleviating some of the financial barriers caused by the pandemic. During the Spring 2022 semester, Gallaudet University will be distributing a third-round of funding from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) in the amount of \$ 2.2 million \$2,208,280. Once this funding is disbursed to our students, Gallaudet University will have provided a total of \$4.15 million (\$4,150,000) in additional need-based financial support to students since September 2020.

The HEERF funding Gallaudet University has received is part of the \$1.9 trillion-dollar American Rescue Package (ARP) approved by Congress and the Biden Administration in 2020. The funds are intended to directly support students who may

need additional support in affording tuition, fees, food, housing, technology, childcare, medical (including mental health), and other expenses related to COVID-19.

All of 1,352 degree-seeking and ELI students will receive additional support through this disbursement of HEERF funding. The disbursed HEERF amounts for each student will be based on FAFSA information from 19-20, 20-21, or 21-22 filed with our Financial Aid Office. If a FAFSA was not completed for any of these years, students will receive a base amount of \$415. If you are not sure if our Financial Aid Office has a FAFSA on file for you, please contact them at [financial.aid@gallaudet.edu](mailto:financial.aid@gallaudet.edu).

For all students, the HEERF funds will be disbursed through HEARTLAND ECSI.

- If you already have direct deposit, make sure it goes where you want it to go from your ECSI account. If your information is correct, no action is required on your part.
- If you do not have direct deposit, we strongly recommend that you set it up through logging into your Heartland/ECSI account. **(Information about Heartland - ASL video link)** before **March 27, 2022**. If we do not have your account by March 27, 2022, it will be sent to the address on file with ECSI. Please note that changing your address at Gallaudet will not automatically update your address through ECSI.
- If you do not have any information on file with us, again we strongly recommend that you set it up through logging into your Heartland/ECSI account. **(Instructions: Heartland ECSI steps link)**.

Gallaudet University takes pride in our diverse community acknowledging that we all come from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds. Here, we believe that personal finances should not be a barrier in receiving a Gallaudet education. This pandemic has taught us that we must continue to take steps to remove the obstacles that students encounter, like affordability, that may impact their ability to matriculate into and graduate from Gallaudet University.

While it may seem that we have found a sense of normalcy in returning to campus, we know that the impacts of the pandemic have and will continue to transform our community. We deeply appreciate all the hard work our students, faculty, and staff have exerted daily in keeping our community safe and strong whilst facing challenging circumstances.

For you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [student.accounts@gallaudet.edu](mailto:student.accounts@gallaudet.edu). Best of luck to the remainder of your Spring Semester!

Sincerely,

Brad Hermes

Chief Financial Officer

Thomas Horejes, Ph.D.

Associate Provost for Student Success & Academic Quality

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**Thomas P. Horejes, Ph.D. | Associate Provost  
Student Success & Academic Quality**

**Gallaudet University**

**College Hall 408A | 202.568.8807 (ASL & Voice)  
Washington DC, 20002**

**Land Acknowledgement: *With recognition and respect, I work at Gallaudet University in the traditional territories of Nacotchtank (Anacostan) & Piscataway.***