Gallaudet HEERF Report #9 – April 8, 2022

REVISED 07/06/22 – REVISIONS are SHOWN in COLORED FONT

1. Gallaudet University signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement on April 21, 2020. Under the

HEERF I program, the University was awarded $1,642,996, of which the University intended to use no less than 50 percent of the $1,642,996 provided to Gallaudet under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. In January 2021, The University was awarded $2,601,481 under the HEERF II program, which requires the University to use at least $821,498 on Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. In May 2021, the University was awarded $4,581,127 under the HEERF III program, which requires the University to use at least $2,296,518 on Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

1. Gallaudet has been awarded $3,939,514 for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. As of March 31, 2022, Gallaudet has drawn down $3,859,507.84 in HEERF funding.
2. As of March 31, 2022, the University has distributed $3,811,397.84 to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, the CRRSSA program and ARP(a)(1) and (a)(4) programs. $821,498 was spent under HEERF 1, $821,498 was spent under HEERF II, and $2,178,867.84 was spent under HEERF III. Gallaudet indicated its approach to disbursing grants to students in previous reports. The disbursement method used during Spring 2022 semester is detailed below in #5.
3. As of March 31, 2022, Gallaudet defined eligibility for HEERF awards as any student who was enrolled during the current semester in undergraduate, graduate, or ELI classes. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for academic years 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 were used to calculate the amount of the Spring 2022 disbursement, as described below. There were 1,352 students enrolled at Gallaudet during Spring 2022, and 1,352 students who received some HEERF grant during Spring 2022. Subsequent to disbursement of the 1,352 payments, 32 student payments were returned to Gallaudet that totaled $31,780 in uncashed checks.
4. In February 2022, Gallaudet’s executive team decided that the priority for Spring 2022 HEERF grants was to make sure that all students received some base amount of HEERF funding, as in surveys and communications from students, all students expressed that they had some unmet need as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, including personal protective equipment and technology needs. The Controller’s office determined that the base rate for all students would be $415. Then, using the lowest expected family contribution (EFC) from the 20-21, 21-22, or 22-23 FAFSA, total need was calculated at a maximum of $20,000 for students with a 0 EFC, and then reducing based on the EFC ($20,000-EFC). In addition, the percentage of full-time credits that a student was taking was also factored in, with the need reducing for part-time students on a pro-rata basis. Total need was multiplied by 10% and added to the $415 base rate to determine total HEERF grant amounts. Total disbursements to students through this process were $2,184,210 and as stated earlier, 1,352 students received grants. Any student who did not complete a FAFSA during those academic years just received $415, but some funding was kept for students who decided to file their FAFSA late or who wanted to appeal the funding amount. Previous disbursement methods are discussed in previous HEERF Quarterly Reports.
5. As of March 31, 2022, including the checks that were returned to Gallaudet, and including the institutional HEERF student emergency grants, 1,918 students students have received an emergency financial aid grant from Gallaudet under the three HEERF programs. 975 students received an emergency financial grant under HEERF 1 (CARES Act), while 1,707 students received an emergency financial grant under HEERF II/III (CRRSSA and ARP(a)(1) and (a)(4) programs.
6. The University sent out a series of emails to students during March 2022 as reminders about HEERF funding, which are attached as HEERF Attachment and HEERF Attachment 1.
7. The image below is a print screen that students saw in Blackboard of the announcement as well.

