- On May 22, 2021 Salem State University received from the Department of Education its "Supplemental Grant Funds for Students" Notification to receive funding under Section 2003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARP").
- 2. The College will receive \$9,517,533.00 pursuant to the institution's Grant Award Notification for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.
- 3. As of September 30, 2021, \$2,139,600 of Emergency Financial Aid Grants were awarded to students under ARP Section 2003.
- 4. Approximately 9,400 students were eligible to apply for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 2003 of ARP. Pursuant to ARP, Salem State University is obligated to prioritize grants to students with exceptional need.
- 5. As of the date of this report, 1,620 have been awarded an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 2003 of ARP.
- 6. The methods to be used by Salem State University to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 2003 of ARP was based on estimated family contribution if the student had filed 2021-2022 FAFSA, and lower amounts were awarded for non-FAFSA filers. Students also needed to be enrolled during one or more terms including summer 2020, fall 2020, spring 2021 or summer 2021.

Students must certify that eligible expenses were incurred when requesting the grant.

Student must have experienced a financial hardship related to any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare.

The Department of Education did not place any restrictions on these funds, as they did with HEERF I and II, in regard to citizenship or eligibility for Title IV aid except to require that Salem State University prioritize its distribution of HEERF III funds to students with exceptional financial need. Thus, the amount of funds for which each student was eligible was based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by the 20-21 FAFSA or, for students not eligible to file the FAFSA. Student had the option to credit the HEERF III funds to their student account balance.

EFC	Amount
0-5000	2000
	1900
	1800
5001-	1700
10000	
	1600
	1500
10001-	1000
20000	
	900
	800

20001-	750
30000	
	650
	550
>30000	450
	350
	250
Non-	300
FAFSA	
	200
	100

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Salem State University has developed an application to distribute American Rescue Plan funds also called the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III) directly to eligible students. The application can be found in Navigator (Financial Account>HEERF III Act Relief Application), and is available from today through **Thursday August 5**. It should take less than 2 minutes to complete the application.

Funds will be distributed based on the number of applicants and demonstrated expenses as they relate to Coronavirus (expenses include but are not limited to: tuition and fees, food, housing, course materials, technology, health/mental health care and child care). We understand that there is substantial need within our community, and funds will be distributed based on exceptional need.

Decisions will be sent to your SSU email on Thursday, August 16. If awarded, funds will be posted to your student account in <u>Navigator</u> on August 16, and applied to your account based on the option you selected on the application.

For more information on the HEERF III Relief funds, visit our FAQ page.