

## **HEERF III COVID-19 Appeal Policy**

### **Funding available: \$741,274.00**

Appeals for additional HEERFIII funds will be handled based on the stated policy below and may be based on either or both of the following reasons:

- Financial hardship related to any component of the student's cost of attendance due to the coronavirus pandemic
- Emergency costs that have arisen due to the coronavirus pandemic for expenses such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care.

Eligibility Criteria:

- May have been an actively enrolled student at any time since the declaration of the coronavirus (COVID-19) national emergency beginning March 13, 2020
- Must demonstrate and document such financial hardship and/or emergency cost that occurred as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.
- Students may only apply for HEERFIII appeal funds one-time during the 2021-2022 academic year.
- Approved funds will be awarded a single one-time payment.
- Funding is available on a first-come, first-serve basis until all funds are exhausted.

Process:

**For all HEERFIII COVID Appeals, the following documents may be needed for a review:**

- **HEERF III COVID-19 Special Conditions Appeal Form**
- **Personal statement**
- **Letter from employer on company letterhead that includes the last date of employment**
- **Unemployment benefits determination document**
- **Documentation of year-to-date income**
- **Documentation of emergency expenses related to the components of the student's cost of attendance as a result of the coronavirus pandemic**

Financial aid applications are not necessary for a student to be considered for a HEERF III appeal.

Students are allowed **one** HEERF III COVID-19 appeal per family, per student.

Please review the awarding matrix below:

### HEERF III COVID-19 Appeal Matrix

<b>High Need EFC 0 – 5000</b>	<b>up to \$4500</b>
<b>Middle Need EFC 5001 – 50550</b>	<b>up to \$4000</b>
<b>Low Need – no aid apps or EFC exceeds COA</b>	<b>up to \$3500</b>
<b>Emergency expense appeals</b>	<b>Based on the documented of the related expense; not to exceed the amounts listed above based on the family’s need level determination</b>

Once approved:

1. Students will be notified of the approved appeal and HEERFIII award amount using the HEERF III Funding Approval letter
2. The approval letter requires a student to elect payment of the HEERFIII funds to either be applied to the student account balance or to be remitted as a check directly to the student
3. The student will have 14 business days to respond to the approval letter with the funding decision. If no decision is rendered, a check will be sent to the student at the mailing address on record with Fairfield University.
4. Students requesting a refund of HEERF III appeal funds or funds that default to a refund due to a lack of response, will be mailed in accordance with Fairfield University’s Refund Check Policy.

Questions should be referred to [Caresact@fairfield.edu](mailto:Caresact@fairfield.edu).