

Dear Fairfield University Community Member:

This past academic year has been like no other. The challenges we encountered as a University were unprecedented, and the difficulties we faced as a community were great. And yet together, we are emerging from this extraordinary period stronger and more optimistic than ever, filled with a spirit of renewal and an even deeper commitment to serving as the model for the modern Jesuit Catholic University.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2) that appropriated funds for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). This law provided \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the Covid-19 pandemic. This represents the third stream of funding appropriated to assist students with expenses and financial needs related to the coronavirus pandemic. Fairfield University is pleased to announce that it has been allocated a third round of funding, designated under HEERF, to assist students with emergency grants. These one-time emergency grants may be used for "any component of the student's cost of attendance for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care."

Each active student (or May 2021 graduate) who was enrolled at Fairfield University at the time the Spring 2021 semester census was taken (February 2021) will be eligible to receive a one-time emergency grant in the amount of \$440 from this third round of funding. Emergency grants will be mailed to the student's address on file with the University by September 30.

There are various other ways that Fairfield University may be able to assist students and families who experienced financial hardships related to the coronavirus pandemic and whose continued enrollment at Fairfield is in jeopardy due to this financial hardship. If you find yourself experiencing such hardship, please email the Office of Financial Aid at <u>caresact@fairfield.edu</u> for guidance on additional options available for support.

For additional eligibility criteria and funding information, please visit the <u>HEERF III webpage</u>.

On behalf of the entire University community, I wish you a safe and healthy summer and look forward to a full return to campus in the fall.

Sincerely,

Corry D. Unis Vice President for Enrollment Management