UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Quarterly Report

September 30, 2021

- 1. UNCSA acknowledges that it has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) governed by section 2003 of the ARP and section 314 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (Pub. L. 116-260). The total amount authorized (ARP) awarded to UNCSA was \$1,135,210 We intend to use these additional funds to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
- 2. UNCSA has gained access to the HEERF III funds of \$1,135,210 from the Department of Education pursuant to our Certification and Agreement for HEERF III (ARP)Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. The total received for HEERF I (CARES) and HEERF II (CRRSAA), and HEERF III (ARP) Emergency Financial Aid Grants is \$2,004,096.
- 3. The total amount of HEERF III (ARP) Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students as of September 30, 2021, is \$0.00. The total amount of both HEERF I (CARES) and HEERF II (CRRSA) Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students as of September 30, 2021, is \$868,886.
- 4. As of September 30, 2021, UNCSA has acknowledged the additional award of the ARP, and the University has determined the number of eligible students to receive the Emergency Financial Aid Grant as a "block grant." Estimated total number of students who are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid to Student block grants is 632.
- 5. The total number of students at the UNCSA who received a HEERF III (ARP) Emergency Financial Aid Grant as of September 30, 2021, is 0.
- 6. Methods used by UNCSA to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants:
 - Block Grants will be provided to Undergraduate and Graduate Students with Title IV demonstrated need based on 2021-22 FAFSA completion. Categories of need are determined based on tiers of EFC ranges, with the neediest undergraduates in Pelleligible EFC ranges receiving the highest block grant of \$1,250. Additional block grant amounts to undergraduates, based on EFC ranges (lower EFC/higher need) were \$1,100, \$500 and \$200. Graduate students with Title IV need received a block grant of \$500.
 - Students with additional emergency needs for any component of their cost of attendance or emergency costs due to COVID-19 can apply for additional emergency grants using a designated application. Upon submission, the application will be

reviewed by committee to determine the specific dollar amount granted. Amounts granted may vary based on individual situations and circumstances.

- 7. Instructions, directions, and guidance were provided by UNCSA to students concerning the ARP/HEERF III Block and Emergency Grants via an all-campus email sent to all college students on September 23, 2021. Key paragraphs of that email providing instructions and guidance include:
 - College students with a **2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** indicating demonstrated need at UNCSA will be eligible to receive **a HEERF III block grant.** Funds received through this process are meant to provide pandemic relief to promote student success.
 - UNCSA will distribute funds as quickly as possible to students with the greatest need. Funds will be allocated in a tiered fashion for undergraduates in amounts ranging from \$200 to \$1,200, with the neediest students including Pell Grant-eligible students receiving \$1,200. Graduate students demonstrating need will receive \$500.
 - If you are eligible to receive a block grant and have set up <u>direct deposit with Student</u> <u>Accounts</u> for refunds, no further action is required to receive these funds. **Block grant funds should be available by the middle of October**. (Checks will be sent to those without direct deposit and will arrive at their permanent addresses by mail later in the month.)
 - In addition to block grants, HEERF III emergency funds may be available through an emergency application process **beginning October 20**. College students with emergency expenses in the following situations can submit a <u>HEERF III emergency</u> <u>application</u> to be considered.
 - Students who were unable to file a FAFSA (e.g., DACA students or international students).
 - Students who filed a 2021-22 FAFSA but did not demonstrate need.
 - Students who have greater needs than those addressed by the HEERF III block grant

Note: Committee updated the block grant amount distributed to undergraduates with Pell Grant-eligible EFCs to \$1,250, effective September 29, 2021.