

Quarterly Report: 7/1/2021-9/31/2021

Date of Report: 10/7/2021 (amended on 2/23/2022 to include quarterly amounts instead of cumulative amounts)

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Student Aid

Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Paul Smith's College has received funds to provide emergency grants to students with unforeseen emergency expenses caused by the disruption due to COVID-19. Eligible expenses include food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and childcare.

Paul Smith's College has signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and intends to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

The federal emergency grants will be distributed through a series of payment initiatives as outlined below

Cumulative Funds Received as of 9/31/2021: \$2,218,217

CARES:	\$461,129
CRRSAA:	\$461,129
ARP:	\$1,295,959

Funds received during 7/1/2021-9/31/2021: \$0

The total amount of HEERF grants distributed to students during current quarter: \$367,588

The estimated total number of PSC students eligible to receive HEERF grants during current quarter: 759

The total number of students who received an HEERF grant during current quarter: 287

The method(s) used by PSC to determine which students receive HEERF grants and how much they would receive:

Students registered for the summer 2021 semester, eligible for a Federal Pell Grant and either self-identified to or were identified by Student Financial Services as needing financial assistance were awarded HEERF. Full time students received \$1,200 and awards were pro-rated for students enrolled less than full-time. Students were identified by Student Financial Services staff as needing financial assistance if they owed a summer balance that was preventing fall registration.

On August 5, 2021, Federal Pell Grant eligible students registered for fall 2021, received an email notifying them of eligibility for a \$1,200 federal emergency grant. Awards are pro-rated for students enrolled less than full-time. Students that want their emergency grant applied to their student account need to email the Office of Student Accounts

from their PSC email. Students that do not request the grant applied to their bill can pick up their refund checks from the Office of Student Accounts on or after August 17, 2021 (valid ID is required).

Students can self-identify to the Financial Aid Office if they are experiencing extraordinary financial circumstances. Students identified by other faculty and staff as having a financial hardship (i.e. needing help with book expenses, asking library staff to rent laptops because they don't have one, etc.) were referred to the Financial Aid Office to be considered for HEERF and/or other financial aid options. These students were evaluated for hardship and eligibility by the Financial Aid Office and awarded HEERF funds based on their financial need and personal circumstances. Award amounts varied depending on individual circumstances.

Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the HEERF grants:

Email to Pell-eligible students:

ID: 0000XXXX

Dear <First Name>,

Paul Smith's College is pleased to inform you of an upcoming federal emergency grant payment. The funds derived from the American Recovery Plan (ARP) are aimed at helping students during the pandemic. You may use this money toward any portion of your cost of attendance (e.g., tuition and fees, room and board, cost of books, supplies, transportation), or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare.

Full-time, Federal Pell Eligible students will receive \$1,200. You have two options for receiving this money:

OPTION 1

If you want the money applied to your student account to help pay your tuition, room, or board (for this semester or next) or would like your emergency grant applied to your student loan to reduce how much you need to repay, you must email studentaccounts@paulsmiths.edu by noon on Thursday, August 12th. The email must be sent from your PSC email account.

OPTION 2

Unless you email us to request otherwise, a check will be available beginning at noon on Tuesday, August 17th (you have until the first week of class to pick up). Checks must be picked up from the Office of Student Accounts in the Phelps Administration Building during regular business hours (M-F, 8AM-4:30PM). Students must have a valid ID to pick up.

For these and any other financial aid questions, do not hesitate to contact us at 518-327-6248 or by email at financialaid@paulsmiths.edu.

Sincerely,



Sonya Stein
Director of Financial Aid

Email to parents:

Subject: Federal Emergency Grants for PSC Students

Dear Parent,

Paul Smith's College is pleased to announce your student may be eligible for a federal emergency grant. Full-time students receiving a need-based federal or state grant (Federal Pell Grant, NYS TAP, VT VSAC Grant) will receive \$2,200 (part-time students will receive a prorated amount). Checks will be distributed directly to students beginning noon on August 17th unless they specifically request the money be applied to their student account. To apply the payment to their account, students have been instructed to email studentaccounts@paulsmiths.edu by Friday, August 12th. The request must come directly from the student's PSC email account. We will be providing more information directly to students via email. Please check-in with your student for more information, or email/call us with questions. Be sure to have your [Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\) password](#) available- without it, we are unable to provide you with a detailed response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya Stein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Sonya Stein

Director of Financial Aid

Fall 2021 students were given an update on the awarding methodology and available funds at the fall 2021 campus kick-off virtual meeting (recorded and sent to students who missed original meeting). They were encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office if they were having financial difficulties.