The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, and signed into law on December 27, 2020. On January 14, 2021, the Department of Education announced the student allocation portion of these supplemental funds.

CRRSAA Student Grant Programs Section 314(d)(5) of CRRSAA requires that an institution receiving funding under section 314(a)(1) provide the same amount in financial aid grants to students from the new CRRSAA funds that it was required or which it would have been required to provide under its original Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Student Aid Portion award.

The following questions as set forth in the Federal Register’s Notice of Public Posting Requirement of Grant Information for HEERF Grantees and the responses by the University of Saint Joseph (USJ) are for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2021.

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used the applicable amount of funds designated under the CRRSAA program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

   
   - The Award was revised with an increase of funds through CRRSAA on January 17, 2021.

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA program.

   - USJ received an additional $579,172 for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA program.

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA program as of the date of submission.

   - $605,660 was awarded from the revised increased award through CRRSAA. USJ awarded $26,488 in CRRSAA grants more than the original allocation of $579,172.

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution that were eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA program.
- The estimated number of students eligible for the CRRSAA grants is 2,274.

5. The total number of students who received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA program.

- 793 USJ students received a direct cash grant under the CRRSAA program.

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the CRRSAA program.

- USJ method for awarding was as follows:
  - Because prioritizing the greatest need was the goal, USJ determined that an appropriate measure to gauge this was unmet need for financial aid by a student.
    - Unmet need is defined as Cost of Attendance less family contribution less scholarships/grants less loan eligibility.
  - Students who were employees and had loan eligibility were not awarded a student grant due to support received from the USJ tuition waiver program.

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

- For the award through CRRSAA, USJ issued a letter to each student who received a cash grant that contained the following language:

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), passed by Congress on December 27, 2020 allocated funds to the University of Saint Joseph (USJ) for emergency cash grants to students. The guidance requests USJ prioritize students with the greatest need. USJ has determined that an appropriate measure for awarding these funds is to provide them to students with unmet need for financial aid. Unmet need is defined as Cost of Attendance less family contribution less scholarships/grants less loan eligibility. Because you qualify for this grant, you are scheduled to receive a CRRSAA grant in the amount of $XXX.

Below are two options for receiving your CRRSAA financial aid grant funds:

**To apply the grant funds to your outstanding balance:** Click on the following link: Consent Form and complete the form; you must use your USJ email to access the Microsoft Form. Alternatively, you may email the Bursar’s Office at bursar@usj.edu – include in the email that you want to apply the CRRSAA grant funds to your outstanding balance. **Deadline: March 21, 2021.**

**To receive the grant funds directly:** No action is required. If you have already signed up for direct deposit, these funds will be processed accordingly. If you have not signed up for direct deposit, a refund check will be mailed to you. To sign up for direct deposit: Log in to MyUSJ. Under the “STUDENT” tab, click the “Go to CASHNet” link. Once on the CASHNet home page, scroll down and click on the “SIGN UP FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT REFUND” link,
complete the form by March 23, 2021. **Students interested in this option will receive their allotted funds during the week of April 5, 2021.**

These funds may be used for any component of your cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care and will not impact your other financial aid.

If you have any questions, please contact Jon Tudryn, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller, at jtudryn@usj.edu.

I hope that you are staying well.