



Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II Report – CRRSAA and ARP

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

October 20, 2021

Eric Fisher Academy (OPE ID: 04162700) received funds from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) for the purpose of providing emergency financial aid grants to students.

The following information is being provided to comply with the CRRSAA and ARP reporting requirements for funds distributed from HEERF. For questions or concerns regarding this Fund Report, please contact Erin Sutton, Assistant Director, esutton@ericfisheracademy.com

1. Eric Fisher Academy acknowledges that it has 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 and ARP (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.
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 and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs is \$284,693.
3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(4) programs as of the date of this report is \$284,693.
4. The estimated total number of students at the institution that are eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs is 246.
5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs is 246.
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 and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs is as follows:

Just as COVID-19 does not discriminate on the basis of socioeconomic status, the Academy recognizes that a wide array of individuals and industries have been adversely impacted by COVID-19. The Academy recognizes that our students' lives have been severely disrupted by coronavirus. Many are facing financial challenges and struggling to make ends meet.

Every student enrolled at the Academy on the applicable CRRSAA and/or ARP Grant measuring dates may be eligible to receive a financial aid grant from the CRRSAA and/or ARP Grant Funds. The amount of each student’s grant award will be based on the following formula, which is intended to prioritize the distribution of student grants to those students who demonstrate exceptional need:

Grants shall be determined based on a Share system. Each eligible student shall be allocated a number of Shares based on the following factors:

Evaluation Factor	Shares
Students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) less than 5847, <u>AND</u> Students whose application for Demonstrated Hardship has been approved	2 Shares
All other students	1 Share

The Academy will use information from the student’s most recent Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) on file to determine the student’s EFC.

Students enrolled on the applicable measuring date who did not previously file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) may choose to file a FAFSA for purposes of grant award calculations to be made pursuant to this plan. The successful completion of the FAFSA will generate an ISIR for the student, and the Academy will use the information from that ISIR for purposes of making grant allocations under this plan. In order for a student’s ISIR to be considered for grant allocation purposes it must be received no later than date on which the Academy allocates the Grant Funds, as communicated to the students.

The Academy recognizes that student financial records previously submitted to the Academy are dated and may not reflect a student’s current circumstances. All students, regardless of their EFC may submit evidence of Demonstrated Hardship by utilizing the Demonstrated Hardship Form provided to the students. The Academy will review the form and supporting documentation provided by the student. The determination of whether a student has made a sufficient showing of Demonstrated Hardship will be in the Academy’s sole discretion, and the Academy’s determination is final. Any student seeking consideration for a grant award due to Demonstrated Hardship must submit the Demonstrated Hardship form and supporting documentation prior to the date on which the Academy begins the process of allocating the CRRSAA or ARP Grant Funds, as communicated to the students. Students who do not submit the applicable form and supporting documentation by the established due date will not be considered for a grant allocation due to Demonstrated Hardship.

The Academy will contact students about the financial aid grants. This initial notice will include a brief description of the plan, including information about how students may apply for additional grant award consideration due to Demonstrated Hardship. The form of this initial notice and Demonstrated Hardship Form is provided below.

The Academy's Assistant Director and Financial Aid Leader will oversee the awarding and eligible student census.

The Academy will prepare a roster of eligible students actively enrolled as of the applicable measuring date and determine their EFC and whether their application for demonstrated hardship has been approved. The Academy will determine the value for 1 Share by dividing (i) the CRRSAA or ARP Grant Fund by (ii) the cumulative number of Shares allocated to all eligible students for each applicable grant award. Each eligible student's grant award amount will then be determined by multiplying (a) the calculated value of 1 Share by (b) the number of Shares determined for that student.

7. The institution will provide the following instructions, directions or guidance to its students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants:

**ARP INFORMATION EMAIL AND
DEMONSTRATED HARDSHIP FORM**

Subject: Student Emergency Relief Grant

Dear Student,

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) provides emergency assistance for students who are in need of financial support for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus pandemic. Under ARP, Eric Fisher Academy (the "Academy") has received grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education for the purpose of making emergency financial aid grants to its students.

Every student enrolled at the Academy on September 20, 2021 may be eligible to receive a financial aid grant from the ARP Grant Funds. The amount of each student's grant award is based on a formula that considers the student's expected family contribution and Pell grant eligibility. This formula is intended to prioritize the distribution of student grants to those students who demonstrate exceptional need.

The Academy will use information on record from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to allocate financial aid awards to students. If you did not previously file a FAFSA and wish to have the information reported on the FAFSA considered as part of your grant award allocation, then you should file a FAFSA as soon as possible. The Academy will begin the process of allocating grant awards to students on September 27, 2021. Any information from your FAFSA reported to the Academy after September 27, 2021, will not be considered in the grant allocation process. In order for the Academy to receive your FAFSA information by this date, we encourage you to file a FAFSA as soon as possible but no later than September 27, 2021. Please see the Financial Aid Leader if you have any questions or would like additional information about filing a FAFSA.

As part of the Academy's student grant allocation formula, students who have recently experienced demonstrated hardship may be allocated an additional share of grant funds. Demonstrated hardship may include:

- Loss of Employment
- Reduction of Income
- Divorce/Separation
- Unusual Medical/Dental Expenses
- Death of Parent or Spouse

If you believe that you have experienced a demonstrated hardship since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage you to submit the attached Demonstrated Hardship Form and supporting documentation. The Academy will review your request and inform you of whether your circumstances have been determined to meet the criteria of demonstrated hardship. Any student seeking consideration for an additional grant award due to Demonstrated Hardship must submit the Demonstrated Hardship form and supporting documentation on or before September 24, 2021. Students who do not submit the applicable form and supporting documentation by September 24, 2021 will not be considered for an additional grant allocation due to Demonstrated Hardship.

The Academy expects to provide students with grant award notices during the week of October 11, 2021. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the Financial Aid Leader if you have any questions regarding the Academy's plan for the allocation and distribution of these emergency student financial aid grants.

Very truly yours,

Erin Sutton, Assistant Director
Eric Fisher Academy

Eric Fisher Academy
Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants

Demonstrated Hardship Form

Student Name: _____

Current Mailing Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Date: _____

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) provides emergency assistance for students who are in need of financial support for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus pandemic. Under ARP, Eric Fisher Academy (the “Academy”) has received grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education for the purpose of making emergency financial aid grants to its students.

As part of the Academy’s student grant allocation formula, students who have recently experienced demonstrated hardship may be allocated an additional share of grant funds. **Any student seeking consideration for a grant award due to Demonstrated Hardship must submit the Demonstrated Hardship form and supporting documentation on or before September 24, 2021.** Students who do not submit the applicable form and supporting documentation by September 24, 2021 will not be considered for a grant allocation due to Demonstrated Hardship.

Please indicate the special circumstances of demonstrated hardship that you wish for the Academy to consider in its allocation of emergency financial aid grants to students (choose all that apply):

- Loss of Employment
- Reduction of Income
- Divorce/Separation
- Unusual Medical/Dental Expenses
- Death of Parent or Spouse

Circumstances that are NOT considered as extenuating include, but are not limited to:

- Standard living expenses (e.g., utilities, credit card payments, etc.)
- Mortgage payments
- Car payments
- Credit card or other personal debts
- Vacation expenses
- All other discretionary expenses

Any request for special consideration of demonstrated hardship must include a detailed written explanation from the student and supporting documentation. Any Demonstrated Hardship Forms submitted without either a detailed written description or supporting documentation will not be considered.

Unusual Medical/Dental Expenses	Medical and/or dental expenses for 2020 or 2021 that were paid out-of-pocket (i.e. not what insurance covered) for you, your spouse (if applicable) and/or your parent(s)/sibling(s), if dependent. Documentation Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of canceled checks for out-of-pocket payments and/or receipts of payments • A copy of your FSA or HSA account showing payments and/or a copy of your medical account listing payments and dates
Death of Parent or Spouse	Copy of the death certificate or a published newspaper obituary with date of death

This form will not be considered unless all of the required documentation is attached.

My signature certifies that the information provided for this request and all accompanying documentation is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Academy Final Action: Approved: _____ Denied: _____

Signature of Academy Official _____ Date _____

EXHIBIT B
Eric Fisher Academy
Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants
Grant Notification & Attestation Statement

Student Name: _____

Current Mailing Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Date: _____

GRANT AWARD AMOUNT: _____

Please return this Notification & Attestation Statement to the Academy as soon as possible but no later than October 15, 2021. Failure to return this attestation statement by this date may result in your grant award being forfeited and those funds being used to make additional grants to other students.

I accept the grant award provided to me from funding made available to the Eric Fisher Academy under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP).

I certify the following:

- All information provided in this Attestation Statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have experienced additional expenses due to the disruption caused by coronavirus.
- I understand that any money awarded from this grant is to be used for any component of my cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or childcare.

Please indicate your choice for the disbursement of your Grant Award Amount (choose one):

_____ Pick Up at Academy _____ Mail to my Current Address

Student Signature

Date

EXHIBIT C

October ____, 2021

Student Name:

Current Mailing Address:

Re: Student Emergency Relief Grant

Dear Student,

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) provides emergency assistance for students who are in need of financial support for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus pandemic. Under ARP, the Eric Fisher Academy has received grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education for the purpose of making emergency financial aid grants to its students.

Enclosed please find an emergency financial aid grant check in the amount of \$_____. This is a grant, which means that this amount does not need to be repaid. Your acceptance of this grant award is conditioned upon your agreement to use the funds for the purposes allowed under ARP and as agreed upon by you in the attestation statement that you previously provided to the Institute. In particular, you understand that the money awarded from this grant is to 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 childcare.

The institution did not discriminate in the awarding of ARP grant funds and evaluated students based on prioritizing Pell Eligible students and students who provided evidence of demonstrated hardship due to COVID-19.

We hope that you and your family and friends are safe and healthy. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Erin Sutton, Assistant Director
Eric Fisher Academy