



## **Monroe County Community College:**

### **ARPA - Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting**

#### **June 11, 2021 – Initial Report**

Monroe County Community College (OPEID 002294) signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act on April 17, 2020. On January 14, 2021 the U.S. Department of Education announced an additional \$22.7 billion available to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is allocated to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which appropriated \$39.6 billion for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III. Taken together, the CARES Act, the CRRSAA, and the ARPA represent HEERF I, HEERF II, and HEERF III.

MCCC's allocation of funding received through the ARPA is \$4,898,160. MCCC will use no less than \$2,486,363 received under Section 2003(a)(1) of the ARPA to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students.

The ARPA requires that institutions prioritize students with *exceptional need*, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. MCCC has a task force that is meeting to determine the institutional methodology for identifying students with exceptional need. The task force will also determine the institutional process for allocating Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students from the HEERF III funding. This report will be updated once the MCCC task force has finalized the procedures for administering HEERF III Emergency Student Funds.

As of June 11, 2021, MCCC has not yet issued any Emergency Financial Aid Grants from HEERF III funds to MCCC students, because there is still funding remaining from HEERF II that is being used to provide students with Emergency Financial Aid Grants.