

## The Federal Emergency Grants for Fall 2021

The Indiana County Technology Center was signed & returned a Certification & Agreement with the Department of Education to accept allocated funds from the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES), Public Law 116-136. The Indiana County Technology Center also received supplement funds from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260 and the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2. The CRRSAA & ARP established and funded the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II & III (HEERF II & III) to provide emergency financial aid grants. These critical funds help eligible ICTC students cover expenses related to any component of the student's 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. Following ARP guidelines, If ICTC obtains a student's written (or electronic), affirmative consent, ICTC is permitted to apply these grants directly to the student's ICTC account; however, students must be informed that they retain the option to receive a direct disbursement of the financial aid grant and that ICTC may not require that the grant be applied to the student's account.

### Federal Emergency Aid Grant Reporting:

As of December 30, 2021, the ICTC received \$319,521.00 for students to fund the Federal Emergency Financial Aid Grants. The estimated total number of students potentially eligible to be considered to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants in quarter 2 was 93 students. As of December 30, 2021, \$219,149.00 in HEERF funds has been disbursed to 163 unduplicated students.

Information on the <https://www.ictc.edu/adult-education/heerf-quarterly-reports/>

### Federal Emergency Aid Grant Criteria and Eligibility:

ICTC made federal HEERF III funds available to all enrolled students of ICTC as of October 1, 2021 who were in good academic standing, good academic standing for all program requirements and Title IV eligible or submit a statement of need if Title IV eligibility was undetermined (no FAFSA on file). For these students, grant awards were tiered based on the student's Pell grant eligibility. Students received an email with an attached student acknowledgement form that had to be completed. Students with no FAFSA on file were required to submit a statement of need in addition to the acknowledgement form. A \$1,800 award amount was given to Pell eligible students and a \$300 award amount was given to non-Pell eligible students and those who submitted a statement of need. In addition, non-Pell eligible students and those who submitted a statement of need could receive up to an additional \$1,500 due to financial hardship caused by the pandemic. Students were required to certify if they incurred expenses due to the disruption caused by the pandemic and situations that applied to them.