



## (1) Acknowledgement

The University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) executed an agreement with the U. S. Department of Education to accept funds from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), and American Rescue Plan (ARP). UVI has, and will continue to use, the funds designated under each program to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants and other assistance to its students.

## (2) Funds Received

As of December 31, 2021, UVI received total funds of \$4,554,658 for student needs.

## (3) Funds Distributed

As of December 31, 2021, UVI distributed \$3,599,956 of that amount to students.

## (4) Eligible Students

There were approximately 1,590 students eligible for CARES Act funding during the Fall 2021 term.

## (5) Students Who Received Aid

During the report period, approximately 950 students received funds under a technology award to cover the cost of at home internet for remote learning.

During the report period, approximately 1,075 students received an appreciation award, which refunded 20 percent of the amount the student paid during the pandemic period.

During the report period, approximately 75 students received funds for compelling circumstances.

During the report period, approximately 70 on-campus students received reimbursement or were provided funds for COVID testing.

## (6) Funding Methodology

UVI provided a \$500 technology award totaling \$476,000 to about 950 students.

UVI provided an appreciation award totaling \$875,267 to about 1,075 students.

UVI provided \$216,172 to 75 students for compelling circumstances.

UVI provided \$10,500 to 70 on-campus students for COVID tests prior to moving into campus housing.

UVI convened a Compelling Circumstances Committee that allowed students to submit applications for additional funding through the CARES Act.

**(7) Instructions, Direction, and Guidance**

Students who face unusual and compelling financial losses due to COVID-19 were able to submit requests and be eligible for additional special support for demonstrated genuine increased expenditures and hardships. Students completed an online application in which they provided information on their circumstances, as well as any supporting documentation. A three-person Administrative panel regularly met and reviewed all information received, including a student's financial aid and Pell grant eligibility or recipient status, and the panel made final decisions and recommendations. Some examples of an unusual and compelling financial loss or hardship are the loss of a job due to COVID-19 that the student planned to use to pay tuition or other costs of attendance; unusual medical expenditures or healthcare including mental health related to the pandemic; documented housing expenditures because a student was unable to live at home due to the pandemic; increased childcare expenses as a result of remote learning; and learning tools or equipment needed for persistence in class, etc.