Louisiana Tech University

Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

P425E200413

HEERF II - Coronavirus Response and Relief
 Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021
 HEERF III – American Rescue Plan Supplemental
 Appropriations Act, 2021

CRRSAA and ARP Grant Quarterly Report

December 31, 2021

Acknowledgement of Certification and Agreement

- (1) Louisiana Tech University signed and returned to the U. S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement assuring that the University is intending to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Cares Act to provide Emergency Financial Grants to students. This certification and agreement, along with the application package, was submitted on April 11, 2020.
- (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 programs.

Cumulative Award Amounts as of December 31, 2021 for all HEERF Grants:\$17,241,238Cumulative Amount Received (Drawn) by the University from G5 as of date of report:\$11,913,088Quarterly Amount Received (Drawn) by the University from G5 as of December 31, 2021:\$4,818,200

(3) The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under the HEERF programs as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the initial report and every calendar quarter thereafter).

CRRSAA Grant as of December 31, 2021:

Amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students (10/01/21-12/31/21):\$4,700Amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students (cumulative):\$3,547,444

ARP Grant as of December 31, 2021:

Amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students (10/01/21-12/31/21):\$4,813,500Amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students (cumulative):\$4,818,200

(4) Estimated Total Number of Students Eligible to Participate

The estimated total number of students at Louisiana Tech University eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the:

CRRSAA Grant as of December 31, 2021:

Total Number of Students Eligible to participate in the program by term (Winter Qtr):	2,783
Total Number of Students Eligible to participate in the program by term (Spring Qtr):	2,688
Total Number of Students Eligible to participate in the program by term (Summer Qtr):	962

ARP Grant as of December 31, 2021:

Total Number of Students Eligible to participate in the program by term (Fall Qtr):	3701
Total Number of Students Eligible to participate in the program by term (Wtr Qtr):	3735

(5) Total Number of Students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the:

CRRSAA Grant as of December 31, 2021:

Total Number of Students who have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants (Winter Qtr):	1,539
Total Number of Students who have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants (Spring Qtr):	1,655
Total Number of Students who have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants (Summer Qtr):	688

ARP Grant as of December 31, 2021:

Total Number of Students who have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants: 3185

(6) Methods used to Determine Eligibility and Amount of Grants

The methods used by Louisiana Tech University to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the **CRRSAA (HEERF II)** are detailed on the attached documents:

Attachments (posted in previous reporting):

Louisiana Tech University CRRSAA (HEERF II) Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students Student Online Application Screen Print (All Quarters) Grant Criteria Information and Instructions (Wtr) Grant Criteria Information and Instructions (Spr) Grant Criteria Information and Instructions (Sum) The methods used by Louisiana Tech University to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the **ARP (HEERF III)** are detailed on the attached documents:

Attachments:

Louisiana Tech University ARP (HEERF III) Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students Student Online Application Screen Print Grant Criteria Information and Instructions (Fall) Grant Criteria Information and Instructions (Wtr)

Other Instructions, Directions, or Guidance Provided by Institutions to Students

Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants are included in Attachment 5.

Attachments:

How to Apply Grant Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Email Notifying Students of the Availability of the Grant

Louisiana Tech University ARP: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III) Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Louisiana Tech is utilizing 50%, or \$10,146,350, of the total CARES Act funding for emergency student grants (HEERF III). Louisiana Tech University has established the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant to provide financial assistance for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance (COA) or for emergency costs that are related to Coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care. The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student.

Application and Award Process:

- Students are required to submit an online application available in the University's Academic Works system. Students must submit applications for Fall Quarter no later than the close of business on October 31, 2021, must submit applications for Winter Quarter no later than the close of business on December 31, 2021, and must submit applications for Spring Quarter 2021 no later than the close of business on April 10, 2022.
- In order to qualify for ARP Grant, students must:
 - be a degree-seeking undergraduate/graduate student currently enrolled at Louisiana Tech University during the applicable quarter of application;
 - be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen who has completed a 2021-2022 FAFSA and has received a federal financial aid offer letter OR be an International student who has completed the International Student Financial Aid Application (College Board);
 - have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$20,000 as determined by the 2021-2022 FAFSA or the International Student Financial Aid application with calculated EFC of less than \$20,000;
 - have original "need" greater than \$0 as defined by subtracting the student Cost of Attendance from the EFC.
 - submit an application which indicates the component(s) of the student's cost of attendance (COA) OR for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care while attending Louisiana Tech University.
- Award amounts vary by student. Factors considered in the ARP Grant application award amount include one or more of the following: have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$20,000 as determined by the 2021-2022 FAFSA or the International Student Financial Aid application with calculated EFC of less than \$20,000. Award amounts per quarter may vary based on quarter based on funding availability and number of applicants.
- First priority will be given to students in order of need and who have submitted complete application by the deadline.
- ARP Grant funds will not be considered as estimated financial assistance for federal financial aid purposes.
- The application will be reviewed by the Office of Financial Aid for an initial award in the predetermined award categories.
- Disbursement of funds will begin after review of applications and determination of award amounts.
- Notification will be made known as soon as approval/denial for the grant is reviewed. Specific
 amounts and procedures for application will be made available on the financial aid web site. All
 students who meet eligibility criteria will be notified of availability by email. Other general
 communication modes will be utilized to make availability known to all students.

ARP Grant Online Application

Opportunity Amount:

Opportunity Amount The total funds available.

\$10,146,350.00

Description:

ARP: American Rescue Plan (HEERF III)

Louisiana Tech University has established the ARP: American Rescue Plan (HEERF III) Grant to provide financial assistance for expenses for any component of the students cost of attendance (COA) or for emergency costs that are related to Coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care. The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. It is recommended that students set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses.

Qualifications:

			de Yes (Choose "Yes", if you have incurred expenses as stated above (eligible or more of the categories below):' must not be blank .
		OR	
		OR	
	'Current Hours' must be greater than 0.	OR 'Degree-Elig' must include 2, 4, 7 or 8.	'Estimated Family Contribution ' must be less than 15000.
certify that I hav		'Degree-Elig' must include 2, 4, 7 or 8.	'Estimated Family Contribution ' must be less than 15000. s that are related to Coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, hous

Questions:

Text	Field	Required	Reviewable	Туре
I certify that I have expenses for any component of my cost of attendance (COA) or for emergency costs that are related to Coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care that occurred on or after December 27, 2020.	10780	Yes	Yes	Single-Select List
I have the following expenses that are related to Coronavirus (choose one or more of the categories below):	10755	Yes	Yes	Checkboxes
If you are an international student you will need to upload a completed College Board International Student Financial Aid Application (https://www.latech.edu/wp- content/uploads/2021/10/2021-22-International-Student-Financial-Aid- Application.pdf)	10802	No	Yes	File Upload

Louisiana Tech University ARP Grant Application Information 2021-2022

Louisiana Tech University has established the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Supplemental Appropriations Act (ARP Grant) to provide financial assistance for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance (COA) <u>or</u> for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. It is recommended that students set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses.

*Instructions for Direct Deposit Authorization for Refunds:

Students who have already signed up for electronic deposit are not required to update their authorization unless their banking information has changed. As always, it is important to review your direct deposit authorization on BOSS if you have recently changed your personal banking information.

1. Logon to BOSS (boss.latech.edu) using your BOSS PIN

- 2. Select "Electronic Deposit of Refunds" option on the Personal Info menu
- 3. Follow the instructions to complete the Electronic Deposit Authorization form
- 4. You must provide the bank routing number and account number that are located on your check or deposit slip.
- 5. If you have questions or need additional information on direct deposit, please email cashier@latech.edu.

The ARP Grant Application will be available on <u>https://latech.academicworks.com/</u>. You may contact <u>caresactgrant@latech.edu</u> for information on the ARP Grant Application or by utilizing the chat feature on the Financial Aid website. Students must submit their ARP Grant Application(s) **no later** than the close of business by the following deadline(s):

Fall Quarter Application:	Opens – October 11, 2021	Closes – October 30, 2021
Winter Quarter Application:	Opens – December 13, 2021	Closes – December 31, 2021
Spring Quarter Application:	Opens – March 21, 2022	Closes – April 10, 2022

Awarding of funds is made on a case-by-case basis, and decisions are considered final at the time of the application review.

A. CRITERIA FOR THE ARP GRANT APPLICATION:

- In order to qualify for ARP Grant Application, students must:
- 1. be a degree-seeking undergraduate/graduate student currently enrolled at Louisiana Tech University during the applicable quarter of 2021-2022 academic year;
- be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen who has completed a 2021-2022 FAFSA and has received a federal financial aid offer letter <u>OR</u> be an International student who has completed the International Student Financial Aid Application (College Board);
- 3. have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$15,000 as determined by the 2021-2022 FAFSA or the International Student Financial Aid application.
- 4. have original "need" greater than \$0 as defined by subtracting the student Cost of Attendance from the EFC.
- 5. submit an application which indicates the component(s) of the student's cost of attendance (COA) <u>OR</u> for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care while attending Louisiana Tech University.

B. OTHER GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION:

- 1. Award amounts vary by student. Factors considered in the ARP Grant application award amount include one or more of the following: Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$5847 which is considered exceptional "need" as defined by a federal financial aid offer letter, EFC less than \$10,000, and EFC less than \$15,000
- 2. ARP Grant funds will not be considered as estimated financial assistance for federal financial aid purposes.
- 3. The application will be reviewed by the Office of Financial Aid for an award amount.
- 4. First priority will be given to students in order of "need" and who have submitted a <u>complete application by the</u> <u>deadline</u>. Balances owed on student accounts will not be deducted from the ARP Grant funds. Any balance on the account is still the responsibility of the student.
- C. DURATION: Each grant application is applicable to designated quarter until all funds are exhausted.
- D. APPLICATION PROCESS: Students must submit a complete application by the specified deadline. Late applications <u>will</u> <u>not</u> be considered. If funding remains after all applications have been reviewed for each quarter, applications for funding for the next quarter will be advertised.
- E. RETENTION: The student must continue to meet the criteria to remain eligible for the disbursement after awarding.
- F. NOTIFICATION PROCESS: Notification of approval will be made known prior to the end of the quarter after all applications have been reviewed. Specific amounts and procedures for application will be made available on the financial aid web site. Students who meet eligibility requirements will be notified of availability by email. Other general communication modes will be utilized to make availability known.

Louisiana Tech University ARP Grant Application Information 2021-2022

Louisiana Tech University has established the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Supplemental Appropriations Act (ARP Grant) to provide financial assistance for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance (COA) <u>or</u> for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. It is recommended that students set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses.

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- 4. You must provide the bank routing number and account number that are located on your check or deposit slip.
- 5. If you have questions or need additional information on direct deposit, please email cashier@latech.edu.

The ARP Grant Application will be available on <u>https://latech.academicworks.com/</u>. You may contact <u>caresactgrant@latech.edu</u> for information on the ARP Grant Application or by utilizing the chat feature on the Financial Aid website. Students must submit their ARP Grant Application(s) **no later** than the close of business by the following deadline(s):

Winter Quarter Application:	Opens – December 13, 2021	Closes – December 31, 2021
Spring Quarter Application:	Opens – March 21, 2022	Closes – April 10, 2022

Awarding of funds is made on a case-by-case basis, and decisions are considered final at the time of the application review.

A. CRITERIA FOR THE ARP GRANT APPLICATION:

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- 1. be a degree-seeking undergraduate/graduate student currently enrolled at Louisiana Tech University during the applicable quarter of 2021-2022 academic year;
- be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen who has completed a 2021-2022 FAFSA and has received a federal financial aid offer letter <u>OR</u> be an International student who has completed the International Student Financial Aid Application (College Board);
- 3. have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$20,000 as determined by the 2021-2022 FAFSA or the International Student Financial Aid application.
- 4. have original "need" greater than \$0 as defined by subtracting the student Cost of Attendance from the EFC.
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- 2. ARP Grant funds will not be considered as estimated financial assistance for federal financial aid purposes.
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- D. APPLICATION PROCESS: Students must submit a complete application by the specified deadline. Late applications <u>will</u> <u>not</u> be considered. If funding remains after all applications have been reviewed for each quarter, applications for funding for the next quarter will be advertised.
- E. RETENTION: The student must continue to meet the criteria to remain eligible for the disbursement after awarding.
- F. NOTIFICATION PROCESS: Notification of approval will be made known prior to the end of the quarter after all applications have been reviewed. Specific amounts and procedures for application will be made available on the financial aid web site. Students who meet eligibility requirements will be notified of availability by email. Other general communication modes will be utilized to make availability known.

How do I apply?

- 1. **Sign Up** to create an account on <u>https://latech.academicworks.com/</u> or **Sign In** if you have previously created an account when you applied for scholarships.
- 2. Once you have signed into Academic Works, make sure that you have completed the General Scholarship application and signed all required permissions in the application. *This is required before submitting the ARP Grant Fall Quarter 21-22 application.*
- 3. If you have previously completed the General Scholarship application, you may want to consider reviewing your information and <u>updating</u> it. *However, this is not required if you have already submitted a general application.*
- 4. <u>If you are eligible</u> to submit an ARP Grant Application for the Fall Quarter, you will see the ARP Grant Fall 21-22 application in the menu as a recommended opportunity.
- 5. Complete all required fields.
- 6. Submit your application by October 31, 2021
- 7. You will be notified by email if you have been approved.

Questions?

Contact the Office of Financial Aid at caresactgrant@latech.edu .

How do I apply?

- 1. **Sign Up** to create an account on <u>https://latech.academicworks.com/</u> or **Sign In** if you have previously created an account when you applied for scholarships.
- 2. Once you have signed into Academic Works, make sure that you have completed the General Scholarship application and signed all required permissions in the application. *This is required before submitting the ARP Grant Winter Quarter 21-22 application.*
- 3. If you have previously completed the General Scholarship application, you may want to consider reviewing your information and <u>updating</u> it. *However, this is not required if you have already submitted a general application.*
- 4. <u>If you are eligible</u> to submit an ARP Grant Application for the Winter Quarter, you will see the ARP Grant Winter 21-22 application in the menu as a recommended opportunity.
- 5. Complete all required fields.
- 6. Submit your application by December 31, 2021
- 7. You will be notified by email if you have been approved.

Questions?

Contact the Office of Financial Aid at caresactgrant@latech.edu .

FALL

ARP Grant Frequently Asked Questions

Are you a Louisiana Tech University student who needs financial assistance for 2021-2022 for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance (COA) or for emergency costs that are related to Coronavirus?

You may qualify for a federal ARP Grant, which provides emergency funding for college students.

Eligibility

Financial aid grants for students may be used for 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 child care. The ARP requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. However, students do not need to be only Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants. In addition, the ARP explicitly provides that financial aid grants to students may be provided to students exclusively enrolled in distance education. Additional eligibility requirements are determined by the University.

Process

Please submit the <u>online application here</u> by the published deadline. Requests will be reviewed prior to the end of each quarter. Awarding of funds is made on a case-by-case basis, and decisions are considered final at the time of the application review. Applications that are incomplete or do not meet application deadlines will not be considered for the quarter. If funding remains after all applications have been reviewed for each quarter, applications for funding for the next quarter will be advertised. There is a maximum amount awarded per student as a base amount. A limited amount of funds are available.

Fall Quarter Application:	Opens – October 11, 2021	Closes – October 30, 2021
Winter Quarter Application:	Opens – December 13, 2021	Closes – December 31, 2021
Spring Quarter Application:	Opens – March 21, 2022	Closes – April 10, 2022

The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. It is recommended that students set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses.

Instructions for Direct Deposit Authorization for Refunds:

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- 1. Logon to BOSS (boss.latech.edu) using your BOSS PIN
- 2. Select "Electronic Deposit of Refunds" option on the Personal Info menu
- 3. Follow the instructions to complete the Electronic Deposit Authorization form
- 4. You must provide the bank routing number and account number that are located on your check or deposit slip.
- 5. If you have questions or need additional information on direct deposit, please email cashier@latech.edu.

ARP Questions and Answers

What is ARP?

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) is federal legislation that provides a variety of financial support to individuals and organizations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. ARP includes a Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) that provides more than \$39.6 billion in emergency funding to higher education to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. This federal program allocates money to Louisiana Tech University to support the important work of addressing students' unmet needs by providing a minimum amount of funding that each institution must devote towards financial aid grants to students.

Who can apply for ARP Act funds?

In order to qualify for ARP Grant Application, students must:

- 1. be a degree-seeking undergraduate/graduate student currently enrolled at Louisiana Tech University during the applicable quarter of 2021-2022 academic year;
- be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen who has completed a 2021-2022 FAFSA and has received a federal financial aid offer letter <u>OR</u> be an International student who has completed the International Student Financial Aid Application (College Board);
- have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$15,000 as determined by the 2021-2022 FAFSA or the International Student Financial Aid application with calculated EFC of less than \$15,000.
- 4. have original "need" greater than \$0 as defined by subtracting the student Cost of Attendance from the EFC.
- submit an application which indicates the component(s) of the student's cost of attendance (COA) <u>OR</u> for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care while attending Louisiana Tech University.

Please submit the online application found here.

Do we have to have a student's 2021-2022 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file in order to be eligible for ARP Grant funds?

Yes, if you are a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen. The University will use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility.

If you have not filed a FAFSA for 2021-2022, go to <u>https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out</u>. Make sure to put Louisiana Tech University with the school code 00200800 on schools to receive your application. The Office of Financial Aid usually receives the completed application within 3-5 business days. Once your application is received, the Office of Financial Aid will email students that it has been received and what additional documents are required to complete your financial aid record. You must have a complete record and offer letter before any awards for ARP Grant can occur.

Can Undocumented Students and International Students Receive Funds Under the ARP Grant?

Yes. If you are an international student and cannot file a FAFSA, you must submit the International Student Aid Application that will collect financial data similar to the FAFSA. This information is similar to the financial information on the FAFSA and will be used to determine eligibility.

What kinds of expenses are allowable?

Financial aid grants for students may be used for 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 child care.

How much can I apply for?

All students who qualify may not receive funds. The ARP requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need. Students who are awarded will receive a minimum base amount based on the financial aid criteria that has been met. A limited amount of funding is available.

How do I apply?

- 1. Sign Up to create an account on <u>https://latech.academicworks.com/</u> or Sign In if you have previously created an account when you applied for scholarships.
- 2. Once you have signed into Academic Works, make sure that you have completed the General Scholarship application and signed all required permissions in the application. *This is required before submitting the any of the ARP Grant applications.*
- 3. If you have previously completed the General Scholarship application, you may want to consider reviewing your information and <u>updating</u> it. *This is not required however if you have already submitted a general application.*
- 4. If you are eligible to submit an ARP for current quarter, you will see the ARP Grant application as a recommended opportunity.
- 5. Complete all required fields.
- 6. Submit your application by the deadline for the quarter.
- 7. You will be notified by email if you have been approved.

Does the money need to be repaid?

No, money received through this fund does not need to be repaid.

How will I receive my money?

The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. It is recommended that students set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses. To authorize direct deposit see the instructions listed in the "Process" section above.

Would this funding reduce my financial aid?

No, this fund does not negate nor replace financial aid, and it is a one-time grant.

Will this award show on my Financial Aid Net Partner account or award letter?

No, ARP Grant funds are not considered as estimated financial assistance for federal financial aid purposes and will not appear on your award letter or Net Partner. You would receive notice by email if you have been awarded funds prior to the end of the quarter.

Can I apply for funding more than once?

No, students can apply <u>only once per quarter</u>. If funding is remaining after all applications have been received and reviewed, students would be notified if there are additional opportunities for future quarters.

What are the deadlines to apply?

Students must submit their ARP Grant 2021-2022 application(s) **no later** than the close of business by the published deadlines. Late applications will not be considered. If funding remains after all applications have been reviewed for the current quarter, applications for funding for the next quarter will be advertised.

Fall Quarter Application: Winter Quarter Application: Spring Quarter Application: **Opens** – October 11, 2021 **Opens** – December 13, 2021 **Opens** – March 21, 2022

Closes – October 30, 2021 Closes – December 31, 2021 Closes – April 10, 2022

Who can I contact for more information?

If you have questions or need more information, visit the Office of Financial Aid's website and "Chat with Financial Aid" or email <u>CaresActGrant@latech.edu</u>. We understand that students and their families have lots of questions and are looking for answers during this difficult time. That's why we have developed a list of available <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> and a list of <u>frequently asked financial aid questions</u> and answers.

Winter

ARP Grant Frequently Asked Questions

Are you a Louisiana Tech University student who needs financial assistance for 2021-2022 for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance (COA) or for emergency costs that are related to Coronavirus?

You may qualify for a federal ARP Grant, which provides emergency funding for college students.

Eligibility

Financial aid grants for students may be used for 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 child care. The ARP requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. However, students do not need to be only Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants. In addition, the ARP explicitly provides that financial aid grants to students may be provided to students exclusively enrolled in distance education. Additional eligibility requirements are determined by the University.

Process

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- 3. Follow the instructions to complete the Electronic Deposit Authorization form
- 4. You must provide the bank routing number and account number that are located on your check or deposit slip.
- 5. If you have questions or need additional information on direct deposit, please email cashier@latech.edu

ARP Questions and Answers

What is ARP?

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) is federal legislation that provides a variety of financial support to individuals and organizations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. ARP includes a Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) that provides more than \$39.6 billion in emergency funding to higher education to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. This federal program allocates money to Louisiana Tech University to support the important work of addressing students' unmet needs by providing a minimum amount of funding that each institution must devote towards financial aid grants to students.

Who can apply for ARP Act funds?

In order to qualify for ARP Grant Application, students must:

- 1. be a degree-seeking undergraduate/graduate student currently enrolled at Louisiana Tech University during the applicable quarter of 2021-2022 academic year;
- be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen who has completed a 2021-2022 FAFSA and has received a federal financial aid offer letter <u>OR</u> be an International student who has completed the International Student Financial Aid Application (College Board);
- have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$20,000 as determined by the 2021-2022 FAFSA or the International Student Financial Aid application with calculated EFC of less than \$20,000.
- 4. have original "need" greater than \$0 as defined by subtracting the student Cost of Attendance from the EFC.
- submit an application which indicates the component(s) of the student's cost of attendance (COA) <u>OR</u> for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care while attending Louisiana Tech University.

Please submit the online application found here.

Do we have to have a student's 2021-2022 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file in order to be eligible for ARP Grant funds?

Yes, if you are a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen. The University will use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility.

If you have not filed a FAFSA for 2021-2022, go to <u>https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out</u>. Make sure to put Louisiana Tech University with the school code 00200800 on schools to receive your application. The Office of Financial Aid usually receives the completed application within 3-5 business days. Once your application is received, the Office of Financial Aid will email students that it has been received and what additional documents are required to complete your financial aid record. You must have a complete record and offer letter before any awards for ARP Grant can occur.

Can Undocumented Students and International Students Receive Funds Under the ARP Grant?

Yes. If you are an international student and cannot file a FAFSA, you must submit the International Student Aid Application that will collect financial data similar to the FAFSA. This information is similar to the financial information on the FAFSA and will be used to determine eligibility.

What kinds of expenses are allowable?

Financial aid grants for students may be used for 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 child care.

How much can I apply for?

All students who qualify may not receive funds. The ARP requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need. Students who are awarded will receive a minimum base amount based on the financial aid criteria that has been met. A limited amount of funding is available.

How do I apply?

- 1. **Sign Up** to create an account on <u>https://latech.academicworks.com/</u> or **Sign In** if you have previously created an account when you applied for scholarships.
- 2. Once you have signed into Academic Works, make sure that you have completed the General Scholarship application and signed all required permissions in the application. *This is required before submitting the any of the ARP Grant applications.*
- 3. If you have previously completed the General Scholarship application, you may want to consider reviewing your information and <u>updating</u> it. *This is not required however if you have already submitted a general application.*
- 4. If you are eligible to submit an ARP for current quarter, you will see the ARP Grant application as a recommended opportunity.
- 5. Complete all required fields.
- 6. Submit your application by the deadline for the quarter.
- 7. You will be notified by email if you have been approved.

Does the money need to be repaid?

No, money received through this fund does not need to be repaid.

How will I receive my money?

The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. It is recommended that students set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses. To authorize direct deposit see the instructions listed in the "Process" section above.

Would this funding reduce my financial aid?

No, this fund does not negate nor replace financial aid, and it is a one-time grant.

Will this award show on my Financial Aid Net Partner account or award letter?

No, ARP Grant funds are not considered as estimated financial assistance for federal financial aid purposes and will not appear on your award letter or Net Partner. You would receive notice by email if you have been awarded funds prior to the end of the quarter.

Can I apply for funding more than once?

No, students can apply <u>only once per quarter</u>. If funding is remaining after all applications have been received and reviewed, students would be notified if there are additional opportunities for future quarters.

What are the deadlines to apply?

Students must submit their ARP Grant 2021-2022 application(s) **no later** than the close of business by the published deadlines. Late applications will not be considered. If funding remains after all applications have been reviewed for the current quarter, applications for funding for the next quarter will be advertised.

Winter Quarter Application: Spring Quarter Application: **Opens** – December 13, 2021 ----**Opens** – March 21, 2022 ---- Closes – December 31, 2021 Closes – April 10, 2022

Who can I contact for more information?

If you have questions or need more information, visit the Office of Financial Aid's website and "Chat with Financial Aid" or email <u>CaresActGrant@latech.edu</u>. We understand that students and their families have lots of questions and are looking for answers during this difficult time. That's why we have developed a list of available <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> and a list of <u>frequently asked financial aid questions</u> and answers.

Chrystal

From: Sent:	Facstaff-I <facstaff-i-bounces@lists.latech.edu> on behalf of guice@latech.edu Tuesday, October 12, 2021 6:34 AM</facstaff-i-bounces@lists.latech.edu>
То:	students-l@latech.edu; facstaff-l@latech.edu
Subject:	[Facstaff-l] October 12 Campus Update ARP grant applications open; Health & Wellness Tip of the Day
Attachments:	Untitled attachment 00005.txt

Dear students, faculty, and staff,

Good Tuesday morning.

Yesterday, our Office of Financial Aid opened the application process for grants through the <u>American Rescue</u> <u>Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)</u>. Like CARES and CRRSAA grants, the ARP provides financial assistance for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that are related to COVID-19, such as, but not limited to, tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care.

The application will be open on AcademicWorks (<u>latech.academicworks.com</u>) through the end of the day Oct. 30. There will be additional application periods for the winter and spring quarters.

Students who meet the following qualifications will see the ARP Grant on AcademicWorks:

- 1. Be a degree-seeking undergraduate/graduate student currently enrolled at Louisiana Tech University during the applicable quarter of 2021-22 academic year
- Be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen who has completed a 2021-2022 FAFSA and has received a federal financial aid offer letter or be an International student who has completed the International Student Financial Aid Application (College Board)
- 3. Have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$15,000 as determined by the 2021-2022 FAFSA or the International Student Financial Aid application
- 4. Have original "need" greater than \$0 as defined by subtracting the student Cost of Attendance from the EFC
- 5. Submit an application which indicates the components of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care while attending Louisiana Tech University

Students who meet the basic criteria will receive an email notification from the Office of Financial Aid with additional information on the ARP Grant and they will be able to see the application as a recommended opportunity in AcademicWorks when they log in.

The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student by the end of the quarter. Students should set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses.

Please review the full information, how to apply, and FAQs at <u>latech.edu/coronavirus/ARP</u>. If you still have questions, you may contact <u>CaresActGrant@latech.edu</u> for additional information on the ARP Grant Application.

Students must submit their ARP Grant Application by the published deadline to be considered.

When awarding the grants, the Office of Financial Aid will prioritize students who have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$0, have official Pell Grant eligibility, and have exceptional "need" as defined by a

federal financial aid offer letter which is considered to have a federal financial aid Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by the 2021-22 FAFSA of less than \$15,000.

Kinesiology Health & Wellness Tip of the Day

Thanks to our Kinesiology faculty for offering this Tip of the Day!

Physical wellness encompasses a variety of healthy behaviors including exercise, proper nutrition and abstaining from harmful habits such as drug and alcohol abuse. It means learning about and identifying symptoms of disease, getting regular medical checkups, and protecting yourself from injuries and harm. Developing such healthy habits today will not only add years to your life but will enhance the enjoyment and quality of those years.

Les Guice President

Chrystal

From:	Facstaff-l <facstaff-l-bounces@lists.latech.edu> on behalf of guice@latech.edu</facstaff-l-bounces@lists.latech.edu>
Sent:	Friday, October 15, 2021 6:35 AM
То:	facstaff-l@latech.edu; students-l@latech.edu
Subject:	[Facstaff-l] October 15 Campus Update ARP grants, Completers grants, Saturday walks
Attachments:	Untitled attachment 00024.txt

Dear Tech Family,

Good Friday morning.

Earlier this week, the Office of Financial Aid opened applications for grants through the <u>American Rescue Plan</u> <u>Act of 2021 (ARP)</u>. Like CARES and CRRSAA grants, the ARP provides financial assistance for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that are related to COVID-19, such as, but not limited to, tuition, food, housing, health care, mental health care, or child care.

To date, Louisiana Tech has administered about \$7 million in COVID relief grants – needed funding to help our students work through the challenges associated with the pandemic. The ARP Act provides our students another \$10 million for further assistance.

The application will be open on AcademicWorks (latech.academicworks.com) through the end of the day Oct. 30. Students who qualify for the grants will see the application availability on <u>AcademicWorks</u>, and if you have further questions, please contact Financial Aid at <u>CaresActGrant@latech.edu</u>.

Completers Grant program

Today, we have another exciting financial aid opportunity to announce – the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Completers Grant program.

The state has over \$600,000 available through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund for students who are *close to completing a degree in high-demand fields* such as healthcare, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

This grant provides scholarships to students who are *within 30 credit hours* of completing their degrees, and at Louisiana Tech University eligible students will have the ability to receive funding for no more than three consecutive quarters.

To be eligible for the Completers Grant, a student must:

- Be a Louisiana resident;
- File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the academic year during which the award will be received.
- Meet one of the priority criteria listed below;
- For credit programs, students shall meet the enrolling institution's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy for receipt of Title IV aid;
- Be enrolled through the 10th class day.

Priority for the Completers Grant is as follows:

• First, to those students who are expected to complete their program of study/graduating in the fall who have significantly depleted or who have no other sources of financial aid;

- Second, to those students who are expected to complete their program of study/graduating in the winter who have significantly depleted or who have no other sources of financial aid;
- Third, to those students who are expected to complete their program of study/graduate in spring who have significantly depleted or who have no other sources of financial aid;
- Fourth, to those students who are expected to complete their program of study/graduate in summer who have significantly depleted or who have no other sources of financial aid.

The application will be open quarterly on <u>AcademicWorks</u> through the end of the academic year. Awards will be posted to student accounts to cover a portion of tuition and fees as funding remains available.

Tech Family Walking Group

We'll continue our walking group this Saturday. Let's meet at 8 a.m. in the driveway of the president's residence and take a little time to enjoy walking and talking with colleagues and friends. We have had new people join each Saturday, so **come on out**! I've also had a few faculty and staff members reach out to me about a walk during other times, and I'd be pleased to schedule that with any of you at lunch, after work, or on weekends as our schedules allow. Just send me an email and we will set it up.

Have a great week-end!

Les Guice President

Chrystal

From:	Facstaff-I <facstaff-i-bounces@lists.latech.edu> on behalf of guice@latech.edu</facstaff-i-bounces@lists.latech.edu>
Sent:	Friday, October 29, 2021 6:25 AM
То:	facstaff-l@latech.edu; students-l@latech.edu
Subject:	[Facstaff-I] October 29 Campus Update ARP Grant reminder; Saturday Walks & Talks
Attachments:	Untitled attachment 00052.txt

Dear students, faculty, and staff,

Good Friday morning.

To date, our Office of Financial Aid has disbursed nearly \$2 million in ARP Grants to Louisiana Tech University students. There are a number of students who are qualified to receive the grants and have received communication but have not applied.

If you've received email communication (to your latech.edu email address) related to the ARP Grants, *I encourage* you to complete your application before the Oct. 30 deadline!

ARP Grants provide financial assistance for expenses for any component of a student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. Please review the ARP Grant criteria at <u>latech.edu/coronavirus/arp/</u> to determine if you meet all of the requirements for eligibility.

The ARP Grant application is available for qualified students on <u>latech.academicworks.com/</u>. Contact <u>caresactgrant@latech.edu</u> for information on the ARP Grant application

Awarding of funds is made on a case-by-case basis, and decisions are considered final at the time of the application review. The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. It's recommended that students set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses.

Tech Family Walking Group

We'll continue our walking group this Saturday. It should be a beautiful day for walking! Let's meet at 8 a.m. in the driveway of the president's residence and take a little time to enjoy walking and talking with colleagues and friends. I've also had a few faculty and staff members reach out to me about a walk during other times, and I'd be pleased to schedule that with any of you at lunch, after work, or on weekends as our schedules allow. Just send me an email and we will set it up.

Have a great weekend, Bulldogs!

Les Guice President

Chrystal

From:	Facstaff-I <facstaff-i-bounces@lists.latech.edu> on behalf of guice@latech.edu</facstaff-i-bounces@lists.latech.edu>
Sent:	Tuesday, December 14, 2021 6:12 AM
То:	facstaff-l@latech.edu; students-l@latech.edu
Subject:	[Facstaff-I] December 14 Campus Update ARP Grants
Attachments:	Untitled attachment 00024.txt

Dear students, faculty, and staff,

Good Tuesday morning.

Louisiana Tech University has established a grant program through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Supplemental Appropriations Act (ARP Grant) to provide financial assistance for expenses for any component of the student's cost of attendance (COA) or for emergency costs that are related to coronavirus, such as but not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. Please review the ARP Grant criteria at <u>latech.edu/coronavirus/arp</u> to determine if you meet all of the requirements for eligibility.

The ARP Grant Application will be available on <u>latech.academicworks.com</u>. You may contact <u>CaresActGrant@latech.edu</u> for information on the ARP Grant Application. Students must submit their Winter Quarter ARP Grant Application no later than the close of business by Dec. 31. Spring Quarter applications will be open from March 21 through April 10.

Awarding of funds is made on a case-by-case basis, and decisions are considered final at the time of the application review.

Students should apply with the following process:

- 1. Sign Up to create an account on <u>latech.academicworks.com</u> or Sign In if you have previously created an account when you applied for scholarships.
- 2. Once you have signed into Academic Works, make sure that you have completed the General Scholarship application and signed all required permissions in the application. This is required before submitting the any of the ARP Grant applications.
- 3. If you have previously completed the General Scholarship application, you may want to consider reviewing your information and updating it. This is not required however if you have already submitted a general application.
- 4. If you do not see the ARP Grant application as a recommended opportunity when you log into Academic Works, go to Opportunities on the top blue menu that will drop down. Click on "Ours" and scroll down and you should be able to see ARP Grant with an Apply button.
- 5. Complete all required fields.
- 6. Submit your application by the deadline for the quarter.
- 7. You will be notified by email if you have been approved.

ARP grant information and criteria for eligibility is available at <u>latech.edu/coronavirus/arp</u>. Frequently asked questions are available at <u>latech.edu/coronavirus/arp</u>. Frequently asked questions

If you have ARP Grant questions or AcademicWorks questions, email <u>CaresActGrant@latech.edu</u>. Email <u>NetPartner@latech.edu</u> for questions on Net Partner access, and email <u>Cashier@latech.edu</u> for direct-deposit or refund questions.

The funds that are awarded will be posted on the student's account and refunded in the form of a direct payment to the student. Students should set up direct deposit to their checking account so that funds will be readily accessible for needed expenses. You can set up direct deposit through the following process:

- 1. Logon to BOSS (boss.latech.edu) using your BOSS PIN
- 2. Select "Electronic Deposit of Refunds" option on the Personal Info menu
- 3. Follow the instructions to complete the Electronic Deposit Authorization form
- 4. You must provide the bank routing number and account number that are located on your check or deposit slip.
- 5. If you have questions or need additional information on direct deposit, please email <u>cashier@latech.edu</u>.

Students who have already signed up for electronic deposit are not required to update their authorization unless their banking information has changed. As always, it is important to review your direct deposit authorization on BOSS if you have recently changed your personal banking information.

If you qualify, take the time to apply for these important grants that can help you cover your Winter Quarter expenses.

Les Guice President