Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II)

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 included additional COVID-19 relief through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act. This new COVID stimulus bill included funding for higher education institutions and students, using the same Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) model established in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act

Eligible students may use the grants toward:

- 1. any component of their cost of attendance
- 2. emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as:
 - tuition
 - food
 - housing
 - health care (including mental)
 - child care

Pinellas Technical College will prioritize grants to currently enrolled students with exceptional financial need, such as those who receive Pell Grants. The HEERF II funds can be awarded to online students as well. If a student has already completed and had their FAFSA verified and is receiving a Pell award, they will automatically receive a HEERF II disbursement in the form of a check, just as they would their net Pell award. You will be notified in similar fashion as to when the check is available at your campus bookstore.

Students who do not qualify for financial aid (PELL), but meet all the following eligibility requirements and complete an online 21/22 FAFSA will be considered for a HEERF II disbursement based on their final EFC (estimated family contribution) score along with a review of income in accordance with the data reflecting the new government stimulus payment package. Funding will be available on a first come first serve and based upon the greater financial need for non-Pell eligible students.

*Individuals who reported adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$75,000 or less on their 2018 tax returns (\$150,000 or less AGI for couples filing jointly; \$112,500 or less for heads of household) may be eligible for a HEERF disbursement.

 IRS Dec. 2020 (The family income capacity will be \$150,000 mirroring that of the new stimulus payment income capacity)

Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen
- Have a valid Social Security Number
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- If male, have registered with Selective Service
- Have completed a 20/21 FAFSA application at: <u>www.fafsa.gov</u>
- Not in debt to the U.S. Department of Education for any outstanding student loans.

School codes: Clearwater: 005605 / St. Petersburg: 013917

Dual enrolled, apprenticeship and fee support programs are not eligible for the grant.