

Hello Student,

You have been identified as a student of Missouri Southern State University eligible for an emergency student grant due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. You will receive a grant in the amount of \$1,227. This grant will not need to be repaid. This email explains this funding opportunity.

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing funds in support to institutions of higher education, like MSSU, to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ARP funds are in addition to funds authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260 and the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136. Notably, a portion of these funds are intended to be distributed directly to eligible students.

MSSU was approved for \$7,636,833 in financial grants to students under HEERF III, which 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. Approximately one-half of those funds were distributed last semester, and the remainder will be distributed on or near March 11, 2022.

Students eligible for the \$1,227 grant under the HEERF III at MSSU are those who:

- 1) Were enrolled at MSSU as of February 11, 2022 for the Spring 2022 semester, and
- 2) Are degree-seeking at MSSU in a certificate, associate, bachelor, or master's academic program,
- 3) Meet U.S. Citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible non-citizen status, and
- 4) Complete a FAFSA for 2021-22 academic year and have a valid Expected Family Contribution ("EFC") of 0-12000.

If you still owe a balance to MSSU, this grant can be used to pay down your amount due with your authorization. Click here to make that election by March 7, 2022:

<https://webapps.mssu.edu/FormWizard/FormViewer.aspx?Id=1407>

This grant will be paid to you by the MSSU Bursar via electronic refund or a paper check by mail. We are working on distribution of your funds to occur on or near March 11, 2022.

Please make sure you have a valid bank account setup for electronic refund at: www.mssu.edu/paymybill

Or

Ensure your mailing address is correct with the MSSU Registrar. If you need to update your address, click here.

<https://webapps.mssu.edu/FormWizard/FormViewer.aspx?Id=131>

By accepting the HEERF III grant, you confirm you are eligible to receive these funds as outlined above, and have incurred expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have any questions about your eligibility or do not wish to receive HEERF III grant funds, please contact the MSSU Financial Aid office immediately.

Finaid@mssu.edu

Finally, you are encouraged to talk with a personal tax professional relating to any questions you may have about the tax treatment of the funds.

Please visit our COVID-19 website under Financial Aid for more detailed information.

<https://emergency.mssu.edu/current-students/modifications-to-student-support-areas/>