

## **American Rescue Plan**

The American Rescue Plan was signed into law (Pub. L. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021)) which provides additional funds for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”) to assist public and private nonprofit colleges and universities in preparing for, preventing, and responding to the COVID-19 global pandemic. These funds are separate from those awarded under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA).

## **Emergency Financial Aid for Students under ARP:**

The U.S. Department of Education (“USDOE”) has allocated \$3,938,838 to North Georgia Technical College (“the college”) for these emergency financial aid grants to students. The college has signed and returned to the USDOE the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the College intends to use no less than 50% of the funds allocated under Section 314 (a)(1) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) for students. These funds are to be used to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible expenses include food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and childcare. Students who meet basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid (Title IV) funding and who have been determined to have an exceptional need were considered for the HEERF III. Information from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) were used to determine eligibility for Emergency Grant Funds.

## **ARP Student Eligibility:**

- Active enrollment during the Summer 2021 or Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 semester(s) for a minimum of one (1) credit hour in a program that leads to a certificate, diploma, or degree.
- Have completed a FAFSA for the 2020-2021 aid year for Summer 2021 or a 2021-2022 aid year FAFSA for Fall 2021 and/or Spring 2022.
- International and DACA students are eligible
- Have met all requirements for admission

## **Student Not Eligible for ARP Emergency Grant Funds:**

Student populations determined as not eligible for Emergency Grant Funds as defined by the U.S. Department of Education:

- Dual Enrolled High School Students
- Joint Enrolled High School Students
- Transient students – these students may receive funds from home institution
- Adult Education (non-credit) Students

If you have questions about these Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the HEERF III, please contact the Financial Aid Office at [finaid@northgatech.edu](mailto:finaid@northgatech.edu).

## Proposed Process for Awarding and Disbursing ARP Emergency funds to Students:

Based on the eligibility requirements above, the college initially identified 903 students who met eligibility requirements to receive Emergency Grant Funds. The college disbursed funds to those students determined to be eligible. Funds were awarded by the Financial Aid Department and disbursed to student accounts. Each student account showed a credit balance. ARP funds can be used to cover tuition and fees balances if the student gives prior authorization. The Business Office disbursed any credit balance to BankMobile for release to the student.

The College will disburse funds to three cohorts: Cohort 1 from the Summer 2021 term, Cohort 2 from the Fall 2021 term, and Cohort 3 from Spring 2022 term.

### Identification of ARP Cohort 1:

Cohort 1 consisted of those students who have already completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2020-2021 and have met all eligibility requirements stated above. The college initially identified 901 students who were enrolled in Summer 2021 semester for Cohort 1.

The total funding amount allocated to Cohort 1 was \$1,309,300 resulting in the award amounts below. The College sent an email and text once the funds were disbursed to student accounts.

Tiers	Students	Award	Total
<b>Zero EFC + FT (verified)</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$134,000</b>
<b>Zero EFC + PT (verified)</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>\$1,800</b>	<b>\$694,800</b>
<b>EFC &gt; 0 + FT OR 0 EFC (not verified)</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>\$97,500</b>
<b>EFC &gt; 0 + FT OR 0 EFC (not verified)</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$383</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>901</b>		<b>\$1,309,300</b>

### Identification of ARP Cohort 2:

The college subsequently determined that students who enrolled in the Fall 2021 term continued to face impact from the COVID-19 virus. Cohort 2 consisted of Fall 2021 semester students who met all eligibility requirements as stated above. NGTC identified 1,463 students who were enrolled in the Fall 2021 semester and could be potentially eligible for Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students.

The total funding amount allocated to Cohort 2 was \$1,306,492.52.

<b>Tiers</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Zero EFC + FT (verified)</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>\$423,000</b>
<b>Zero EFC + PT (verified)</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$410,000</b>
<b>EFC &gt; 0 + FT OR 0 EFC (not verified)</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$288,000</b>
<b>EFC &gt; 0 + FT OR 0 EFC (not verified)</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>\$451.32</b>	<b>\$185,492.52</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,463</b>		<b>\$1,306,292.52</b>

The disbursement of Cohort 2 to student accounts took place in October 2021. The College sent an email and text once the funds were disbursed to student accounts.

### **Identification of ARP Cohort 3:**

The college subsequently determined that students who are enrolled in the Spring 2022 term will continue to face impact from the COVID-19 virus. Cohort 3 will consist of Spring 2022 semester students who met all eligibility requirements as stated above. NGTC has tentatively identified approximately 1,307 students who will be enrolled in the Spring 2022 semester and could be potentially eligible for Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students.

The disbursement of Cohort 3 to student accounts took place in March 2022. The College sent an email and text once the funds were disbursed to student accounts.

The total funding amount allocated to Cohort 3 is \$1,310,040.

<b>Tiers</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Zero EFC + FT (verified)</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>\$1,800</b>	<b>\$424,800</b>
<b>Zero EFC + PT (verified)</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$492,000</b>
<b>EFC &gt; 0 + FT OR 0 EFC (not verified)</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>\$750</b>	<b>\$213,000</b>

<b>EFC &gt; 0 + FT OR 0 EFC (not verified)</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>\$480</b>	<b>\$181,920</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,309</b>		<b>\$1,323,434.48</b>

Should any Emergency Grant funds remain following the distribution to Cohort 3, the college will disburse the balance of the remaining funds to the eligible students identified in Cohort 3.

After the Spring 2022 disbursement, there was \$12,914.48 remaining. This amount was divided equally and disbursed amongst the 236 students in the Zero EFC + FT (verified) tier. Each student received an additional \$54.72. The student with the highest unmet need in the above-referenced tier was awarded a slightly larger award due to rounding. This same student was reallocated an additional \$54.72 due to a stale dated returned check from another student.

If you have questions about these Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the ARP, please contact the Financial Aid Office at [finaid@northgatech.edu](mailto:finaid@northgatech.edu)

## **Emergency Financial Aid for Students under SSARP:**

The U.S. Department of Education (“USDOE”) has awarded \$395,020.00 to the college for emergency financial aid grants to students. The college has signed and returned to the USDOE the Certification and Agreement. These funds are to be used to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible expenses include food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and childcare. Students who meet basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid (Title IV) funding and who are determined to have an exceptional need will be considered for SSARP. Information from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) were used to determine eligibility for Emergency Grant Funds.

## **SSARP Student Eligibility:**

- Active enrollment at the time of disbursement during the Fall 2022 or Spring 2023 semester(s) for a minimum of one (1) credit hour in a program that leads to a certificate, diploma, or degree.
- Have completed a FAFSA for the 2022-2023 aid year for Fall 2022, Spring 2023, and/or Summer 2023.
- Have a valid zero EFC on their 2022-2023 FAFSA.
- International and DACA students are eligible
- Have met all requirements for admission

## **Student Not Eligible for SSARP Emergency Grant Funds:**

Student populations determined as not eligible for Emergency Grant Funds as defined by the U.S. Department of Education:

- Dual Enrolled High School Students
- Joint Enrolled High School Students
- Transient students – these students may receive funds from home institution
- Adult Education (non-credit) Students

## **Proposed Process for Awarding and Disbursing SSARP Emergency funds to Students:**

Based on the eligibility requirements above, the college estimates 560 students who met eligibility requirements to receive Emergency Grant Funds. The college will disburse funds to those students determined to be eligible. Funds will be awarded by the Financial Aid Department and disbursed to student accounts. Each student account shows a credit balance. ARP funds can be used to cover tuition and fees balances if the student gives prior authorization. The Business Office disbursed any credit balance to BankMobile for release to the student.

The College will disburse funds to three cohorts: Cohort 1 from the Fall 2022 term and Cohort 2 from the Spring 2023 term.

**Identification of SSARP Cohort 1:**

Cohort 1 will consist of those students who have already completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2022-2023 and have met all eligibility requirements stated above. The college estimates 560 students who were enrolled in Fall 2022 semester for Cohort 1.

The total funding amount allocated to Cohort 1 is estimated to be \$194,254.28 resulting in the award amounts below. The College will send an email and text once the funds are disbursed to student accounts.

<b>Tiers</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Zero EFC</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>\$350.82</b>	<b>\$194,354.28</b>

Should any Emergency Grant funds remain following the distribution to Cohort 1, the college will disburse the balance of the remaining funds to the eligible students identified in Cohort 2.

**Identification of SSARP Cohort 2:**

The college subsequently determined that students who enroll in the Spring 2023 term will continue to face impact from the COVID-19 virus. Cohort 2 will consist of Spring 2023 semester students who meet all eligibility requirements as stated above.

The total funding amount allocated to Cohort 2 is \$200,765.72

The college anticipates the disbursement of Cohort 2 to student accounts will take place in March 2023. The College will send an email and text once the funds are disbursed to student accounts.

Should any Emergency Grant funds remain following the distribution to Cohort 2, the college will disburse the balance of the remaining funds to the eligible students identified in Cohort 2.

If you have questions about these Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the SSARP, please contact the Financial Aid Office at [finaid@northgatech.edu](mailto:finaid@northgatech.edu)