

## ARP Act Emergency Grant FAQ

### What is the ARP Act?

- o The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act is federal legislation that provides financial support to individuals and organizations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). One part of this federal program provides emergency grants to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students with exceptional need or unexpected expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Where are the ARP Act Emergency Grant funds coming from? Is there some sort of disaster relief fund?

- o Granite State College was awarded supplemental HEERF funds from the federal ARP Act, which provides emergency grants for eligible college students with exceptional need or unexpected expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### How do I know if I qualify for an ARP Act Emergency Grant?

- o Undergraduate and Graduate degree students who have financial need or unexpected expenses are eligible to apply for these funds.
- o ARP Act funds are distributed to eligible students based upon financial need or unexpected expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In all cases, students with exceptional financial need will be prioritized for funding first.

### Am I eligible for an Emergency Grant if I did not apply for financial aid?

- o No. The college understands there is a great need at this time and that family financial situations have changed since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Granite State College is using information available from financial aid applications to prioritize students with exceptional need to meet ARP Act requirements and U.S. Department of Education guidance to distribute funds quickly.

### How do I apply for an ARP Act Emergency Grant?

- o Information about applying for these funds will be emailed to eligible students when funding becomes available. Students will apply for the funds through a survey in WebROCK.

### **Does receiving an ARP Act Emergency Grant reduce my financial aid?**

- o No, this fund does not eliminate or replace financial aid. It is a one-time grant.

### **If I received a CARES Act Emergency Grant or CRRSA Act Emergency Grant, am I eligible for an ARP Act Emergency Grant?**

- o Yes. Eligibility for an ARP Act Emergency Grant is independent from the CARES Act and CRRSA Act Emergency Grants. Having received a CARES Act Emergency Grant or a CRRSA Act Emergency Grant does not impact your eligibility for an ARP Act Emergency Grant.

### **If I did not apply for a CARES Act Emergency Grant or CRRSA Act Emergency Grant, am I eligible for an ARP Act Emergency Grant?**

- o Yes, if you meet the ARP Act Emergency Grant eligibility requirements of either exceptional need or unexpected expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **How much money is available for each eligible student?**

- o Amounts vary; eligibility will be determined once the application is completed. Emergency grants will be between \$750 and \$1,250.

### **How will Granite State College determine the amount each eligible student will receive?**

- o Granite State College is following the ARP Act and the U.S. Department of Education guidance which encourage universities to distribute funds to as many eligible students as possible. The dollar amounts reflect the college meeting this federal expectation and the fixed amount available to distribute.

### **How do I receive my Emergency Grant funds?**

- o Information about the funds and the application to apply will be emailed to eligible students.
- o The funds will be sent to eligible students as soon as possible. Electronic refunds will be processed and sent within 10 days, and checks may take up to two weeks, unless the student elects to have the grant remain on their student account to pay for direct educational expenses.
- o Granite State College strongly recommends that you set up direct deposit to receive the funds. However, you must do so as soon as you complete the application for the emergency grant funds. If there is a delay, we cannot guarantee the funds will be sent to you electronically

You may do so by logging into [WebROCK](#). From the main menu, select "Student Accounts" and then "Account Summary by Term/Refund and Direct Deposit Information".

- o If a direct deposit record does not exist, funds will be mailed to the student's permanent mailing address record on file. Checks can take up to two weeks. To update or view the address on file for you, please log into [WebROCK](#), and go to the "Personal Information" menu option.

### **I am enrolled in an online program, am I eligible for the Emergency Grant?**

- o Yes. The ARP Act and guidance from the U.S. Department of Education state that students enrolled exclusively in online programs are eligible for emergency grants.

### **What happens if I do not have expenses now, but I do have expenses later?**

- o Eligible students should complete the application as soon as possible. Emergency grants will be issued until funding runs out.
- o The ARP Act funds are intended to go to students with exceptional financial need or those who have unexpected expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Is there a deadline to apply for an Emergency Grant?**

- No. However, eligible students should complete the application as soon as possible because Emergency Grants will be issued until funding runs out.

### **What constitutes eligible expenses to qualify for an Emergency Grant?**

- o Any component of the student's cost of attendance (tuition, fees, housing, meals, books/supplies, transportation and other miscellaneous) or unexpected expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic (including tuition, fees, housing, meals, healthcare and childcare). Examples include money spent for additional technology/course requirements, unanticipated travel, replacement of medications, and emergency childcare due to extended school closures.

### **If I receive an Emergency Grant, am I required to report how I used the grant funds?**

- o No. The ARP Act Emergency Grant is intended to help students during this difficult time. Emergency Grants are required to be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance (tuition, fees, housing, meals, books/supplies, transportation and other miscellaneous) or unexpected expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic (including tuition, fees, housing, meals, healthcare and childcare).

### **Do I have to repay an Emergency Grant?**

- o No, the ARP Act Emergency Grant funds are designed to be a grant, not a loan.

### **Do I need to report financial aid or grants on my federal tax return?**

- o Each financial award you receive from the federal government and other sources will have separate and unique tax consequences for your federal tax return. Visit the [IRS website](#) for assistance.

### **Who should I contact if I have questions?**

- o For ARP Act Emergency Grant fund eligibility questions, contact Financial Aid: (603) 513-1392 or [financial.aid@granite.edu](mailto:financial.aid@granite.edu)
- o For ARP Act Emergency Grant fund disbursement questions, contact Student Accounts: (603) 513-1330 or [student.accounts@granite.edu](mailto:student.accounts@granite.edu)