

On December 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) was signed into law. Section 3144(a)(1) of the CRRSAA and (a)(4) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260 (December 27, 2020), provided an additional \$22.7 billion for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). The Department of Education has now made these grant funds available for disbursement.

The student aid portion of these grant funds may cover any component of the student’s cost of attendance or be allocated for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus. Costs include, but are not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care. The CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, in awarding financial aid grants to students.

Sherman College is committed to getting funds to students as quickly as possible. The College has decided to award block grants to students in order to expedite the process. Under this plan, students will receive block grants based on their Primary Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA that was filed for the 2020-2021 academic year. Students will receive block grants according to the following breakdown:

Primary EFC	\$0 (calculated by FAFSA)	>\$0 (calculated by FAFSA)	Non-FAFSA filers w/SSN or ARN on record
Grant amount per student	\$188	\$151	\$120
No. of students	249	130	15
Total grant dollars	\$46,812	\$19,630	\$1,800

Through the process of determining the best allocation for the CRRSAA funding, the College was committed to ensuring that our students with the most need are prioritized. To do this, the College felt that the EFC from the FAFSA provided the most efficient way to determine who our students with exceptional need were. Students who did not file a FAFSA will be eligible for these block grants, if a valid Social Security number or Alien Registration Number is on file in the college’s student information system of record. Students must be in an active, enrolled status as of April 15, 2021.

The decision regarding the distribution of CRRSA grant funds by the College is final and not subject to appeal or reconsideration.

Funds will be made available to students through regular direct deposit channels or paper checks, beginning the week of April 19, 2021. Grants awarded under the CRRSAA are required to be awarded directly to students and cannot be applied directly to a student’s outstanding balance without consent from the student. The College’s award of Emergency Relief for Students under CRRSAA is \$68,233, and the full amount is being distributed through these block grants.

Additional institutional grants are still available through the Sherman Pride Student Emergency Fund (SPSEF). Students may request up to \$500 for urgent or unexpected needs. Please email financialaid@sherman.edu to: 1) request a copy of the SPSEF application; 2) submit completed applications and accompanying documentation; or 3) submit any questions about the SPSEF or the application process.

Sherman College Financial Aid Office