

The New York School for Medical and Dental Assistants (NYSMDA) Grant Disbursement Policy

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID GRANT FUNDS

Under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) II and III

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (Pub. L. 116-260) and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2)

NYSMDA received \$308,868.00 under HEERF II and received \$181,954 under HEERF III. NYSMDA currently has \$220,222 available under HEERF II and III. NYSMDA is required to disburse these funds to eligible students who need assistance as instructed in the Act. Any NYSMDA student enrolled as of October 12, 2021 who has not received a previous HEERF disbursement who because of the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus needs assistance for eligible expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care (including mental healthcare) and childcare will receive an emergency financial aid grant. Students who are on a leave of absence who have not received a previous HEERF disbursement also qualify as current NYSMDA students. Students who have graduated are not eligible for the grant because they are not current students. If a student has completed all their program requirements, they are considered a graduate regardless of whether their credential has been issued.

Students who start school after October 12, 2021 will also be eligible for an EFAG as long as funds are available.

NYSMDA will distribute the EFAG grants based on need with the needier students receiving more grant money than those who are not as needy. NYSMDA will determine a student's need by their Expected Family Contribution (EFC). NYSMDA will calculate the amount of a student's grant based on their 21/22 EFC. If a student did not file a FASFA for 21/22 but filed a FASFA for 20/21 then NYSMDA will use the student's 20/21 EFC to calculate their EFAG. If a student did not file a FASFA for either year the student will be eligible for the minimum \$500 grant. A student who has not filed a FASFA can file a FASFA and receive a higher

amount if they have an EFC that is less than \$4,000. The amount of the grant will be based on the table below:

20/21 or 21/22 EFC	Amount of Grant
0	\$1,000
1-1000	\$900
1001-2000	\$800
2001-3000	\$700
3001-4000	\$600
All other eligible Students	\$500

Students may apply for additional EFAG funds if they have extreme financial need. A situation that would constitute extreme financial need would be homelessness. To apply they must write a letter to their Program Director explaining their need for additional EFAG funds. NYSMDA may ask for proof the student is in the shelter system. This applies even if a student previously received an EFAG.

Students may appeal their EFC number if they can demonstrate that the COVID-19 pandemic adversely affected them since they filed their 20/21 FASFA and that they would have had a lower EFC if these circumstances had been their circumstances when they applied for financial aid. Factors for a successful appeal may include but are not limited to loss of a job or increased parental responsibilities.

A check will be issued to the student and will be sent to the address that the school has on file. If you are a student at the New York campus, ensure that the school has the correct address for you in the Orbund System. If you are a student at the Idaho Campus, make sure that you call the school if you have changed your address since enrolling.

The check will be sent with the attached attestation form (See Exhibit 1). If a student does not have a need for the funds that follows the attestation form, then they are required to send the check back to the school.

Student disbursements will be tracked with a HEERF grant disbursement ledger. The ledger will be checked daily to determine the checks that are outstanding. If a check is outstanding for 30 days than the school will contact the student to verify their address, stop payment on the initial check and reissue a check, if needed.

Exhibit 1

Attestation Form for Disbursement of Emergency Financial Aid Grants

By accepting this Emergency Financial Aid Grant you are attesting to the fact that as a result of the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus, you are in need of assistance for eligible expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care.

If you are not in need of these funds or do not feel that you qualify for them, please return the check to:

The New York School for Medical and Dental Assistants
33-10 Queen Boulevard
Long Island City, NY 11101