

November 11, 2021

Federal relief funds for students have been distributed

Dear Eligible Students:

St. Bonaventure University is pleased to participate in the Department of Education program, Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF III) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act 2021, to distribute emergency grants directly to students. If you signed up for direct deposit, your emergency grant has been deposited to your bank account on file with Student Accounts. If you do not have a bank account on file, your payment has been mailed to the address on file.

The University's allocation complies with the Department of Education guidance for the distribution of emergency grant funds. The supplemental grant requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. In addition to Pell eligible students, SBU awarded grants to undergraduate students eligible to participate in grant or loan programs offered by the U.S. Department of Education (Title IV), with the exception of students on full scholarship. Please review your online statement located on my.sbu.edu for details of your emergency grant amount.

The Department of Education guidance indicates that the emergency grant payment is for "emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as: tuition, food, housing, health care and childcare." We trust that you will use the emergency grant money according to this guidance.

It is our understanding that the Internal Revenue Service has indicated that these emergency grant payments are nontaxable qualified disaster relief grants under IRC Section 139. However, we cannot provide tax advice and we recommend that you check with your tax advisor on this issue.

We hope that you and your family are safe and well during this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Daniel Hungerford", written over a horizontal line.

H. Daniel Hungerford
Vice President for Finance & Administration