

## SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE



# HEERF HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS

April 28, 2022

The enclosed check issued to you is from Southwest Mississippi Community College (SMCC), Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III) - Student portion. The payment is a financial aid grant and does not have to be paid back. **Students that need to pay any outstanding SMCC account balance or to register for Summer 2022 or Fall 2022 classes can use the funds from the enclosed HEERF III check. Please keep in mind, students with outstanding SMCC account balances cannot register for future classes or receive a transcript.**

The College awarded HEERF III financial aid grants to eligible students in the following manner: SMCC prioritized eligible students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell grants. SMCC distributed \$1,300.00 to all eligible students who received a Pell grant during the Spring 2022 semester. SMCC distributed \$1,000.00 to all other eligible students enrolled during the Spring 2022 semester. Eligible students are considered to be full-time (at least 12 credit hours) students. Students considered to be part-time (11 credit hours or less) or students enrolled in dual credit, dual enrollment, and MI-Best are not considered to be eligible students for HEERF III financial aid grants.

The American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, authorized the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III). The ARP gave support to institutions of higher education to serve students, ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to assist eligible students with expenses related to educational disruption due to the COVID-19 crisis. Southwest Mississippi Community College (SMCC) signed an agreement with the United States Department of Education to accept these funds.

Students enrolled in the Spring 2022 semester, who did not receive a financial aid grant from HEERF III funds and believe they are entitled to such a grant, may submit a request to the college via email at the following email address: [businessoffice@smcc.edu](mailto:businessoffice@smcc.edu).