About the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (“CRRSAA”) and the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II)

In January 2021, the U.S. Department of Education (“ED”) announced additional funding available to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding established the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (“HEERF II”) and was authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (“CRRSAA”), which was signed into law on December 27, 2020.

Under CRRSAA, HEERF II Student Share Grant funds may be used for any component of the student’s cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. The CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need and authorizes grants to students exclusively enrolled in distance education.

The following information is provided by Lake Forest College as required by the Department of Education (“ED”) in order to comply with the reporting requirements under CRRSAA. This is the College’s final progress report regarding the HEERF II Student Share Grants and presents information as of June 30, 2021.

Lake Forest College signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the College has used the applicable amount of funds designated under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

The College received $773,134 in HEERF II Student Share Grant Funds. The College received confirmation of the availability of these funds on January 19, 2021. As of the date of this report, the College has drawn down all of the available funds on a reimbursement basis.

There were approximately 1,100 students at the institution eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

The College first distributed payments based on financial aid appeals received through the College’s appeal process. Then the College disbursed the remaining funds based on each eligible student’s financial need, as calculated by the results of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For those who did not receive appeal funds, all Pell eligible students received $1,250 and all those with an EFC greater than $5,711 and less than
$9,000 received $750. Those who received appeal funds less than these amounts, received the difference.

Each student awarded funds received an award letter stating the distribution and Lake Forest College, with support from the U. S. Department of Education, has made additional funding available for those students affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act awards funding to colleges and universities to provide emergency financial aid grants to students. Unlike the prior Federal CARES awards that were also provided during the pandemic, these funds may be used for any component of your cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, technology need, health care (including mental health care) or childcare. The students were able to apply their HEERF II financial aid grant towards their student account balance. The College disbursed the funds to the students though electronic check or ACH to those who did not chose this payment option.