

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Audit and Compliance Committee  
January 27, 2021**

**SUBJECT:** CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds, SUS Compliance Summary

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

Information

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into U.S. law on March 27, 2020, to provide economic relief to the American people negatively impacted by the novel coronavirus. The bill allotted \$2.2 trillion in relief aid across many sectors. Of that amount, approximately \$14 billion was given to the Office of Postsecondary Education as Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF). Of that amount, approximately \$300 million was provided to the State University System of Florida.

Congress charged the U.S. Secretary of Education with distributing the emergency funds to higher education institutions using a formula based on the number of full-time enrolled students who were not exclusively enrolled in online programs and who could demonstrate that he or she meets the eligibility criteria for federal student aid under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The Board of Governors' Inspector General and Director of Compliance, Julie Leftheris, will focus this year's annual System compliance summary to the Committee on the State University System of Florida institutions' use of HEERF awards. Additionally, she will provide examples of university chief audit executives' and chief compliance officers' oversight and monitoring activities.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** PowerPoint Presentation

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Julie Leftheris