



Education Task Force Webcast

May 4, 2020

Kentucky Department of Education

Guiding Question

- How can Kentucky educational partners assist school districts in pandemic recovery efforts as they receive CARES Act funding?



The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Effective March 27

- \$2.2 trillion in emergency funding
- \$30.75 billion in emergency education funding to states
- Kentucky: \$1.73 billion in CARES Act funds
- Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER): \$44 million
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER): \$193 million
 - KDE is working on a CARES Act guidance document
 - U.S. Department of Education has not yet released full guidance for ESSER or GEER Funds



Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

- Kentucky's allocation: \$43.79 million
- Notice of funds and application: April 14
- Governor has one year from receipt of funds to make awards
- Governor may award funds to provide:
 - Emergency support to LEAs the SEA deems most significantly impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19);
 - Emergency support to IHEs the governor determines are most significantly impacted by COVID-19; and
 - Support to any other IHE, LEA or education-related entity in the state the governor deems essential for carrying out educational services.



GEER Fund Uses

- Governor Beshear is allocating \$30 million of GEER funds to support elementary and secondary education
- All Kentucky school districts “significantly impacted” by COVID-19
- GEER funds can be used by districts to support remote learning/technology and school district food service
- Superintendent Assurance Document: board notification
- Funds may be used for eligible expenses occurring on or after March 13, 2020
- GEER funds are available for obligation by the receiving entity through Sept. 30, 2022



Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)

- Kentucky's grant is approximately \$193 million
- Minimum of 90% to districts
- Distributed through the Title I-A formula
- Anticipated that districts will receive about 83% of what they received in FY 2019 Title I-A funds
- In addition to Title I-A funds, may be expended much more broadly
- Notice of Funds and Application: April 23



ESSER Fund Uses



LEAs may spend their funds on:

- Any activity authorized by ESEA, IDEA, AEFLA, Perkins or McKinney-Vento
- Coordination of preparedness and response efforts
- Providing principals and other school leaders with resources to address individual school needs
- Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children; children with disabilities; English learners; racial and ethnic minorities; students experiencing homelessness; and foster care youth, including outreach and service delivery
- Procedures and systems to improve preparedness and response efforts
- Training and professional development for staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious disease

ESSER Fund Uses (Continued)

LEAs may spend their funds on:

- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean facilities
- Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including: how to provide meals; technology for online learning, guidance for carrying out IDEA requirements; and providing educational services consistent with applicable requirements
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software and connectivity) for students
- Providing mental health services and support
- Planning and implementing summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs
- Other activities necessary to maintain operations and services and employ existing staff



Equitable Services for Non-Public Schools

- Applies to both the GEER and ESSER funds
- Additional guidance from the U.S. Department of Education is anticipated
- The CARES Act requires LEAs to provide equitable services in the same manner as provided under section 1117 of the ESEA ([Sec. 18005\(a\)](#))
- Control of CARES Act funds and items purchased with the funds must remain in public control ([Sec. 18005\(b\)](#))
- Non-public school: A school that is accredited, licensed or otherwise operates in accordance with state law and existed before the emergency was declared ([Sec. 18007\(6\)](#))



Questions?

Robin Kinney

Associate Commissioner

Office of Finance and Operations

(502) 564-1976, ext. 4302

Robin.Kinney@education.ky.gov

KDE COVID-19 webpage

<https://education.ky.gov/comm/Pages/COVID-19-Updates.aspx>

