

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Updated April 24, 2020

Education Stabilization Fund Grants

- Funds available through September 30, 2021
- Total nationwide funding of \$30,750,000,000 for all Stabilization Fund programs
 - 2% reserved off the top for admin, Bureau of Indian Education programs, outlying areas, and coronavirus concentration grants (grants to States with highest burden) -- \$615,000,000
 - Remaining \$30,135,000,000 for grants to States across three categories of grants:
 - A. Elementary and Secondary School (K-12) Emergency Relief Fund
 - B. Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund
 - C. Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

A. Elementary and Secondary School (K-12) Emergency Relief Fund (\$13,229,265,000)

- Per legislation, 43.9% of total grants to States. $43.9\% \times \$30,135,000,000 = \$13,229,265,000$
- NC will receive the same proportion of the Emergency Relief Fund as it did from the most recent Title I award.

Total K-12 Emergency Relief Funds	\$13,229,265,000
NC K-12 Emergency Relief Award	\$396,311,607

Reservations and Allocations

Maximum of 0.5% may be reserved for State Admin	\$1,981,558
Maximum of 9.5% may be reserved for State emergency needs	<u>\$37,649,603</u>
Maximum Total State reservation	\$39,631,161
Minimum of 90% shall be allotted as State Aid to LEAs and charters	\$356,680,446

Formula for Distribution to Public School Units

- From the allocation for State Aid, the formula for allocations is: Each public school unit is to receive the same proportion of funds as they received under Title I, Part A in the most recent fiscal year (FY 20 PRC 050 allotments).
- On April 23, 2020, USED announced that the application for K-12 Emergency Relief Funds was available for States and once states have submitted the signed PDF application, the US DOE expects to obligate the funds within 3 business days. **All Public School Units will need to apply for funding through DPI.**
- DPI has 1 year from receipt of funds to make all subawards or the remaining funding will be reallocated to other States.

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)

Updated April 24, 2020

Use of Funds:

Allowable uses of K-12 Emergency Relief Funds include:

- Any activity for any authorized ESEA program, IDEA program, CTE or Adult Education Program, Homeless Youth Education Program
- Coordination of coronavirus response efforts between an LEA and other government organization
- Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address individual school needs
- Activities to address the unique needs of special student populations (e.g., low-income, disabled students, ELLs, minority students, homeless students, foster care students, etc.)
- Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEAs
- Training or PD for staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases
- Purchasing sanitation supplies
- Planning for long term closures
- Includes planning for providing meals to eligible students, planning for online learning, planning for meeting the requirements of IDEA during distance learning, etc.
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students served by the LEA – which can also include assistive technology for disabled students
- Providing mental health services and support
- Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs
- “Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in LEAs” and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA

B. Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund

(NC receives \$95,638,869 of the total \$2,953,230,000 based on the funding formula)

- Funding formula:
 - 60% based on relative total population 5 through 24,
 - 40% based on relative Title I student population
- USED announced on April 14, 2020 that the application process is available to the states and once states have submitted the signed PDF application, the US DOE expects to obligate the funds within 3 business days.
- The Governor may provide subgrants for the following
 - (1) provide emergency support through grants to local educational agencies that the State educational agency deems have been most significantly impacted by coronavirus to support

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the ability of such local educational agencies to continue to provide educational services to their students and to support the on-going functionality of the local educational agency;

- (2) provide emergency support through grants to institutions of higher education serving students within the State that the Governor determines have been most significantly impacted by coronavirus to support the ability of such institutions to continue to provide educational services and support the on-going functionality of the institution; and
- (3) provide support to any other institution of higher education, local educational agency, or education related entity within the State that the Governor deems essential for carrying out emergency educational services to students for authorized activities described in section 18003(d)(1) of this title or the Higher Education Act, the provision of child care and early childhood education, social and emotional support, and the protection of education-related jobs.

Equitable Services

- Equitable services must be provided through both the Governor's Emergency Relief Fund ⁽¹⁾ and the K-12 Emergency Relief Fund.
- Must be provided through the same process as equitable services provided through Title I, including consultation requirements.

⁽¹⁾ For Governor's Emergency Relief Fund, assumes that it only applies if subgrants are made to LEAs.

Continued Payment to Employees

- CARES Act requires SEA and LEAs that receive funds to continue to pay its employees and contractors *to the greatest extent practicable* during the period of disruptions or closures related to coronavirus.

MOE

- State has to maintain support for elementary and secondary education at levels that are the average of the State's support in the three fiscal years preceding the date of enactment.
 - A State may apply for a waiver of this requirement if there is a precipitous decline in financial resources.