



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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CARES Act Update

June 2020 Meeting of the Board of Regents

CARES Act

- **On March 27, 2020, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.**
- **The CARES Act provides \$30.75 billion nationwide in an Education Stabilization Fund to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus.**

Education Stabilization Fund

The CARES Act Education Stabilization Fund includes:

- **\$13.2 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSERF) to support the ability of local educational agencies (LEAs) to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation; and**
- **\$2.95 billion for the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) which provides grants to Governors for the purpose of providing educational agencies with emergency assistance to address the impact of COVID-19.**

New York State Allocations

- **New York State has been allocated \$1.037 billion under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSERF). NYSED's application was approved and our grant award was received on May 4, 2020.**
- **New York State has been allocated \$164.2 million under the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER). The New York State Division of the Budget (DOB), on behalf of the Governor, submitted the application for these funds. The application was approved and the grant award was received on May 26, 2020.**

Allocations of Funds

- **ESSERF allocations to LEAs and GEER allocations to school districts will be calculated using the relative shares of grants awarded under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the most recent fiscal year.**
- **ESSERF and GEER funds to school districts were programmed by the Division of the Budget and the Legislature in the 2020-21 enacted New York State budget through the application of a “pandemic adjustment” to partially offset the state share of state aid to school districts.**
- **\$5.1 million in ESSERF state educational agency reserve funds remain available, and a plan for the use of these funds is under development.**

Equitable Services

- **The CARES Act requires LEAs that receive ESSERF and GEER funds to provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools.**
- **NYSED will be including guidance on the equitable services requirement when the application for the CARES Act funding is opened to LEAs.**

Discretionary Grant Competitions

- **The CARES Act set aside 1% of the \$30.75 billion in funding for the Education Stabilization Fund for grants to States with the highest coronavirus burden (\$307.5 million).**

Discretionary Grant Competitions

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) is dividing the \$307.5 million between two competitions:

- **\$180 million for the Rethink K-12 School Models Grant (USED anticipates making 12-13 awards averaging approximately \$15 million each); and**
- **\$127.5 million for the Reimagining Workforce Preparation Grant (USED anticipates making 8-9 awards averaging approximately \$15 million each).**

Discretionary Grant Competitions

- **NYSED plans to submit an application for both grants.**
- **Applications for the Rethink K-12 School Models Grant are due by June 29, 2020. NYSED submitted a letter of intent to apply on May 17, 2020.**
- **We are waiting for USED to issue a supplemental notice with detailed information on application requirements for the Reimagining Workforce Preparation Grant.**



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Thank You