

Kentucky Department of Education



Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021

Kentucky Board of Education
February 3, 2021

Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021



- ▶ **Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021**
 - Includes FY21 education funding and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, a stimulus and pandemic relief package
- ▶ **Includes \$81B split between three funds:**
 - GEER II (the Governors Emergency Education Relief fund) receives 5% of the funding, or \$4.05B
 - ESSER II (the Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief fund) receives 67% of the funding, or \$54.3B
 - HEER II (the Higher Education Emergency Relief fund) receives 28% of the funding, or \$22.7B

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act

- ▶ **\$54.3B for ESSER II for public K-12 schools**
- ▶ **\$4.05B for the GEER II, which includes a \$2.75B set-aside for services to private K-12 schools**
- ▶ **10% maximum SEA reservation; ½ of 1% SEA max. for administrative costs**
- ▶ **For permissible expenses back to March 13, 2020**
- ▶ **Available for obligation through September 30, 2023**



ESSER II - Fund Summary

- ▶ Largest, most flexible discretionary K-12 fund in history
- ▶ \$14B more than ED's total FY21 discretionary K-12 appropriation
- ▶ Least burdensome process to receive funds
- ▶ Should be added to state accounts within 30 days of enactment
- ▶ Substantial pressure to use funds quickly and effectively
- ▶ States should communicate early and often on how funds are being spent



ESSER II - District Access to Funds

- ▶ \$54.3B based on FY21 Title I, Part A formula
- ▶ \$928M – Kentucky’s allocation
- ▶ No Equitable Services requirements
- ▶ New Assurances and Spending Plan
- ▶ Same CARES Act reporting requirements
- ▶ Detailed accounting w/in 6 mos. how SEA is using funds to address learning loss
- ▶ ESSER II funds tracked separately from ESSER
- ▶ ESSER I funds should be expended before ESSER II funds
- ▶ New MUNIS Project Number



ESSER II - Fund Uses



Broad uses of funds, including (new uses):

- ▶ Any allowable activity under ESEA, IDEA, Adult Education, Perkins CTE;
- ▶ Coordination of COVID preparedness and response, numerous specific COVID response activities;
- ▶ Addressing learning loss, including through assessment, evidence-based activities, parent engagement, tracking attendance, and improving student engagement;
- ▶ School facilities repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs; improve indoor air quality;
- ▶ Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services.

ESSER II - Encouraged Uses

- ▶ Districts are strongly encouraged to use ESSER II funds to address learning loss. Examples include:
 - Assessments
 - Extended instructional time/services
 - Additional academic services, instructional materials or supports, or devices/connectivity
 - Address learning barriers and train teachers and parents, provide access to school meals, or socio-emotional programs.
 - Professional learning for parents and teachers



ESSER II – Additional Permissible Uses

- ▶ **Nurses**
- ▶ **Mental Health Professionals**
- ▶ **Employee Emergency Leave Days**





Governors Emergency Education Relief II (GEER) Fund

- ▶ **\$4.05B for the GEER II Fund**
- ▶ **\$19.5M – Kentucky’s allocation**
 - Uses of Funds = emergency supports, same as CARES GEER
 - LEAs and IHEs “most significantly impacted”
- ▶ **\$2.75B of the \$4.05B for Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools**
 - \$40.8M – Kentucky’s allocation

Broadband

- ▶ **\$3.2B for low-income families to access broadband through FCC fund and a \$1B tribal broadband fund.**
- ▶ **Individuals eligible for \$50 monthly internet subsidy and providers can be reimbursed up to \$100 for issuing a Wi-Fi connected device (one per household)**
- ▶ **Eligible if participate in free and reduced price lunch program**



Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)

- ▶ **Permits the use of “simplified assumptions” in determining whether a school or covered childcare facility is closed or operating under reduced hours. These and other provisions were included to clarify coverage for children under 6 years of age in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households under P-EBT program.**





Child Nutrition Program Provisions

Participants of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National School Lunch Program and Child and Adult Care Food Program

- ▶ **Partially (55%) reimburses school food authorities and covered daycare centers for costs incurred during sudden COVID-19 emergency school closures in Spring 2020.**
- ▶ **Additional details have not been distributed by the USDA regarding the amount of funds allocated for this purpose or how these funds will be distributed.**

Federal FY21 Appropriations

- ▶ **\$227 million increase for Title I**
- ▶ **\$173 million more for IDEA Part B State grants**
- ▶ **\$11.3 million more for Supporting Effective Educators Grants (ESEA Title II, Part A)**
- ▶ **\$135M increase for the Head Start program**
- ▶ **\$85M more for the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG).**
- ▶ **\$10B childcare funding for providers and families.**



Employee Leave

- ▶ Employers may but are no longer required to provide paid Emergency Family and Medical Leave or Emergency Paid Sick Leave past December 30, 2020.
- ▶ [702 KAR 1:190E](#) permits districts to provide employees unlimited COVID-19 Emergency Leave days.
- ▶ May use ESSER II funds
- ▶ CRSSA Act requires entities receiving funds “to the greatest extent practicable, continue to pay its employees and contractors”



Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

- ▶ Deadline extended for the expenditure of CRF funds until December 31, 2022
- ▶ SEEK Replacement and Last Mile Internet
- ▶ All districts have expended funds for SEEK replacement before original deadline of December 30, 2020.
- ▶ Last mile internet – additional guidance to be provided



Questions or Comments

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