

FACT SHEET: GOVERNOR’S EMERGENCY EDUCATION RELIEF FUND II

Purpose

This chart, which summarizes information provided by the US Department of Education, outlines the primary differences between the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act enacted on March 27, 2020, and the GEER II Fund under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021, Public Law 116-260, enacted on December 27, 2020. The following chart does not include details of the Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) fund, which is a separate part of GEER within CRRSA.

Topic	GEER Fund (CARES Act)	GEER II Fund (CRRSA Act)
Authorizing Legislation	Section 18002 of Division B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act	Section 312 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021
Period of Funds Availability	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared. Available for obligation by Governors and subrecipients through September 30, 2022.	Same as GEER Fund (CARES Act): May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared. Available for obligation by Governors and subrecipients through September 30, 2023.
Amount of Funds Available	\$4,300,000	\$1,930,818
Governor Deadline for Awarding Funds	Governor must award the funds within one year of receiving them, which will be April 29, 2021 depending on a Governor’s award date. Applications and Amendments are due to AOE by March 20, 2021.	Governor must award the funds within one year of receiving them, which will be January 11, 2022.

Contact Information:

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<p>Definition of “Awarded”</p>	<p>Under the CARES Act, funds are “awarded” when the Governor awards a contract or subgrant, or otherwise reserves the funds at the State level consistent with State law and fiscal procedures.</p>	<p>Same as GEER Fund (CARES Act): Under the CRRSA Act, funds are “awarded” when the Governor awards a contract or subgrant, or otherwise reserves the funds at the State level consistent with State law and fiscal procedures.</p>
<p>Uses of Funds</p>	<p>The CARES Act includes allowable uses of funds related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19.</p> <p>Governors may provide subgrants to LEAs and IHEs within their jurisdiction that have been “most significantly impacted by coronavirus” to support their ability to continue providing educational services to their students and to support the “on-going functionality” of these entities. In addition, a Governor may use these funds to provide support through a subgrant or a contract to other LEAs, IHEs, and education-related entities that the Governor “deems essential” for carrying out emergency educational services, providing child care and early childhood education, providing social and emotional support, and protecting education related jobs.</p>	<p>Same as GEER Fund (CARES Act): The CARES Act includes allowable uses of funds related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19.</p> <p>Governors may provide subgrants to LEAs and IHEs within their jurisdiction that have been “most significantly impacted by coronavirus” to support their ability to continue providing educational services to their students and to support the “on-going functionality” of these entities. In addition, a Governor may use these funds to provide support through a subgrant or a contract to other LEAs, IHEs, and education-related entities that the Governor “deems essential” for carrying out emergency educational services, providing child care and early childhood education, providing social and emotional support, and protecting education related jobs.</p>
<p>Equitable Services</p>	<p>An LEA that receives ESSER funds under the CARES Act (Section 18005) must provide equitable services to non-public school students and teachers in the same manner as provided under section 1117 of Title I, Part A of the ESEA.</p>	<p>Within GEER, the CRRSA Act includes a separate program of Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) for which eligible non-public schools may apply to an SEA to receive services or assistance. Because the CRRSA Act establishes this EANS program, LEAs are not required to provide equitable services under GEER II.</p>

Maintenance of Effort (MOE)	Under the CARES Act, a State that receives GEER funds must maintain support for elementary and secondary education and State support for higher education in each of fiscal years (FY) 2020 and 2021 at least at the level of such support that is the average of the support for elementary and secondary education and higher education provided in the three fiscal years preceding the date of enactment of the CARES Act (FYs 2017, 2018, 2019).	Under the CRRSA Act, a State that receives GEER II funds must maintain support for elementary and secondary education and higher education in FY 2022 based on the proportional share of the State’s support for elementary and secondary education and higher education relative to the State’s overall spending averaged over FYs 2017, 2018, and 2019.
Reporting	Under the CARES Act, each Governor that receives GEER funds must meet the reporting requirements of section 15011 of the CARES Act, which are satisfied through the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting, and other reporting as the Secretary may require (Annual Reporting).	Under the CRRSA Act, each Governor that receives GEER II funds must meet the CARES Act reporting requirements that apply to GEER funds.
Tracking of Funds	GEER funds must be tracked separately from GEER II and EANS funds.	GEER II funds must be tracked separately from GEER and EANS funds.