Ohio | Department of Education

CCIP Note # 446

Re: Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funding
Date: September 11, 2020
To: Superintendents, Treasurers, Authorized Representatives, Fiscal Representatives and Consolidated Funding Application Contacts of GEER Grant Recipients

This CCIP Note is specific to the educational entities that will be receiving a Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) award from the Ohio Department of Education. A portion of Ohio's GEER program will be used to support grants to schools and districts that did not receive funding through the subsidy portion of the Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief Fund (ESSERF). These funds are provided to specific Non-Title I Awarded Educational Entities (NT1AEE) including Educational Service Centers (ESCs), County Boards of Developmental Disabilities (CBDD) serving school age children, and the Ohio School for the Deaf and the Ohio School for the Blind.

This initial communication is intended to inform this group of NT1AEEs of what to expect in the coming weeks and months ahead and to provide basic information. More detailed information will be provided throughout the implementation and as the entities begin administering their GEER programming.

Basic Information
The Ohio Department of Education's Office of Federal Programs has been asked to administer the GEER program to NT1AEE. The amount of the program is $18.05 million. The breakdown of subaward amounts is found HERE.

Organizations	Total Amount
Educational Service Centers	$15.3 million
County Boards of Developmental Disabilities	$1.7 million
Ohio School for the Blind	$500,000
Ohio School for the Deaf	$500,000

Please note: The Governor's Office is still in process of making decisions as to how the remaining balances of the GEER funds will be awarded. The Governor can use these funds to support primary and secondary education, post-secondary education and other education related entities. As of August 24, 2020, $9.0 million was allocated to support publicly funded childcare payments in addition to the $18.05 million allocated for primary and secondary education.

Allowable Uses
The Non-Title I GEER award will be administered similarly to the ESSER Fund program. GEER recipients may use funds for the twelve broad allowable uses under the ESSER Fund (CLICK HERE).

Period of Availability
Non-Title I GEER recipients may claim reimbursement for allowable expenditures back to March 13, 2020 until September 30, 2022. While access to GEER funds will not be available until the application is in final-approval status, the Non-Title I GEER recipients are encouraged to begin identifying allowable expenditures and/or begin implementation of the allowable activities as the awardee may claim reimbursement for such costs back to March 13, 2020.

What to Expect in the Coming Weeks

- *Application*: The Office of Federal Programs is creating an application for the entities to submit within the CCIP. We anticipate that the application will require basic funding information, explaining of budgeted amounts aligned to allowable uses of funds, and sign off on certifications and assurances. This application should be available before the end of September 2020 for subrecipients to submit. Funds will be available once the application is approved by the Office of Federal Programs.
- *Guidance Materials*: The Office of Federal Programs will create general guidance materials and frequently asked questions. These will be stored in the CCIP Document Library under the GEER subfolder.
- *Support:* Each of Non-Title I GEER recipient will be assigned to an educational program specialist (EPS) within the Office of Federal Programs. The EPS will support these entities with any questions on the GEER program, uses of funds and reviewing and approving the funding application. The EPS assignments will be found in the award contact information as well as posted to CCIP Document Library under the GEER folder.
- *Communications:* The Office of Federal Programs will provide Non-Title I GEER recipients with regular and updated GEER information. These communications will be found in the award recipient's History Log as well as in CCIP notes.