Ohio | Department of Education

CCIP Note #483

Re: American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (ARP EANS) Program
Date: September 10, 2021
To: Nonpublic Principals, Education Service Center Superintendents, Authorized Representatives, Fiscal Representatives and Consolidated Funding Application Contacts

American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (ARP EANS) Program
As part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, Public Law 117-2, Congress set aside an additional $2.75 billion to provide emergency assistance to students and teachers in nonpublic schools through the ARP Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (ARP EANS) program.

The purpose of the ARP EANS program is to provide services or assistance to eligible non-public schools to address the impact that the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on non-public school students and teachers in the state.

On September 9, 2021, Governor DeWine submitted an application to receive Ohio's ARP EANS award. Ohio anticipates receiving an ARP EANS award of **$155,190,488**. The Ohio Department of Education (the Department) is responsible for the administration of the EANS program.

Nonpublic schools are required to submit an application to receive services or assistance through the ARP EANS program. In addition, the United States Education Department (the USED) has determined that only schools that have a significant percentage of students from low-income families will be eligible to apply for ARP EANS. Ohio has proposed an alternate significant percentage of 25% students from low-income families and is waiting on approval from the USED.

The Department is currently developing the ARP EANS nonpublic application in association with stakeholders from the nonpublic community. The Department anticipates the ARP EANS nonpublic application to be released in early October.

ARP EANS Data Collection Requests
The Department must identify the number of students from low-income families within each nonpublic school to determine the schools that are eligible to apply for ARP EANS. The Department does not have required data for certain nonpublic schools. The Ohio Department of Education is requesting this data through the nonpublic advisory council and direct outreach to Chartered and Non-Chartered, Non-Tax Supported schools. However, district representatives are also encouraged to reach out to schools within their district boundaries from the list above to share this data request. The Department is requesting the following steps be taken by the timelines noted:

1. **September 15: Request for Nonpublic School Contact Information**
   If a school is in the following list and is interested in being considered for eligibility for the ARP EANS program, the school must provide the full name and email address for the nonpublic school principal to eans@education.ohio.gov by **September 15, 2021.** Only schools that do not have nonpublic contact information on file with the Department should respond to this request. Click here to see the list of schools that must provide contact information by September 15, 2021.
2. **September 22: Complete ARP EANS Pre-application Survey**
   The Department will utilize Free and Reduced Price Lunch and E-Rate data to determine the number of students from low-income families within a nonpublic school. However, the Department does not have Free and Reduced Price Lunch and/or E-Rate data for some nonpublic schools. On September 15, 2021, the Department will send an ARP EANS Pre-application Survey to nonpublic schools for which the

Department does not have Free and Reduced Price Lunch Data or E-Rate data. The ARP EANS Pre-Application Survey will come as an email from the following address: donotreply@ohio-k12.help. If a school receives the ARP EANS Pre-Application Survey and is interested in being considered for eligibility in ARP EANS program, the school must complete the survey by **September 22, 2021.** Only schools that do not have Free and Reduced Price Lunch data or E-Rate data on file with the Department will receive the ARP EANS Pre-Application Survey. Click here to see a list of schools that must complete the ARP EANS Pre-Application Survey by September 22, 2021.

General ARP EANS Timelines and Notables

Timeline

- Nonpublic schools without contact information on file with the Department provide requested data by September 15, 2021.
- Nonpublic schools without Free and Reduced Price Lunch and/or E-Rate data on file with the Department complete the ARP EANS Pre-Application Survey by September 22, 2021.
- The Department will release the ARP EANS nonpublic application in early October.
- The ARP EANS nonpublic application period will be two weeks.
- ARP EANS Final Service Amounts will be determined by early November.
- The Department will contract with ESCs and nonpublic schools that receive an ARP EANS Final Service Amount will begin consultation to receive ARP EANS services and assistance in March 2022.
- Nonpublic schools that receive an ARP EANS Final Service Amount will receive services and assistance over the period of availability of the ARP EANS grant, which runs until September 30, 2024.

Anticipate Release of ARP EANS Nonpublic Application in October

The Department anticipates releasing the ARP EANS nonpublic application to eligible schools in early October. Principals at eligible nonpublic schools will receive an email in early October from the following address: donotreply@ohio-k12.help. The email will contain a link to the EANS application. In order to be eligible for the ARP EANS program, a nonpublic school must be an elementary or secondary school that—

- Is non-profit (see the definition here).
- Is accredited, licensed, or otherwise operates in accordance with State law;
- Was in existence prior to March 13, 2020, the date the President declared the national emergency due to COVID-19; and
- Did not, and will not, apply for and receive a loan under the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(37)) that is made on or after December 27, 2020. (See C-12 for information regarding nonpublic schools that apply for but do not receive a PPP loan).
- Had 25% or more of students from low-income families in October of 2019.

EANS Services and Assistance

A nonpublic school may apply to receive services or assistance to address educational disruptions resulting from COVID-19 for:

- Supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Improving ventilation systems, including windows or portable air purification systems
- Training and professional development for staff on sanitization, the use of PPE, and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases

- Physical barriers to facilitate social distancing
- Other materials, supplies or equipment recommended by the CDC for reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain health and safety
- Expanding capacity to administer coronavirus testing to effectively monitor and suppress the virus
- Educational technology
- Redeveloping instructional plans for remote or hybrid learning or to address learning loss
- Leasing sites or spaces to ensure social distancing
- Reasonable transportation costs
- Initiating and maintaining education and support services or assistance for remote or hybrid learning or to address learning loss

Important Considerations

- The Department will utilize a Weighted Per Pupil Approach to determine ARP EANS service amounts for nonpublic schools. The Weighted Per Pupil Approach will be derived from low-income data and impact of COVID-19 data available to the Department and/or collected on the ARP EANS application.
- The Department hopes to provide ARP EANS Estimated Service Amounts in early October.
- Schools must be eligible and apply for ARP EANS to be included in the EANS Final Service Amounts.
- The ARP EANS Final Service Amounts may vary significantly from the ARP EANS Estimated Service Amounts, based on the ARP EANS applications received by the Department.
- Ohio's Weighted Per Pupil Approach is designed to prioritize low-income students and the impact that COVID-19 has had on nonpublic schools.
- The Department will contract with Education Service Centers (ESCs) to provide services and assistance to nonpublic schools that receive an ARP EANS Final Service Amount.
- In ARP EANS, there are no reimbursements to nonpublic schools. All ARP EANS Services and Assistance will be provided by the ESC.

Stakeholder Engagement

The Department is working with a range of nonpublic stakeholders to design the ARP EANS application process and method for providing services and assistance. More details about Ohio's ARP EANS program will become available in the coming weeks.

If you have questions, please contact EANS@education.ohio.gov.