Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) Allowable Service Examples

This document is intended to give nonpublic schools and Education Service Centers (ESCs) examples of allowable services under the Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) program. Nonpublic schools that received an EANS Final Service Amount should work in consultation with the assigned ESC to receive EANS services. All EANS requests must meet the requirements of the EANS program. All services rendered under the EANS program are under the control of the ESC on behalf of the Ohio Department of Education (Department). For more information on EANS allowable uses and EANS program requirements, please see the EANS Frequently Asked Questions. For more information, contact eans@education.ohio.gov.

Supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities

Allowable supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities may include hand sanitizer, soap, disinfectants, and other cleaning products. It is important to note that Section 312(d)(4)(A) specifically authorizes a nonpublic school to request "supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities." This authority does not extend to contracting with a vendor to perform the cleaning. If a nonpublic school has contracted for cleaning and seeks reimbursement, it may be reimbursed for the cost of supplies but not for the full cleaning contract.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Allowable PPE may include masks, face shields, gloves, and/or other PPE recommended by the CDC to prevent the spread of infectious disease. It is important to note that Ohio passed House Bill 169 of the 134th Ohio General Assembly regarding the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE). Details can be found on this letter from Office of Budget and Management. Personal protective equipment purchases after January 14, 2022 must be either (1) approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; or (2) Authorized for use by the United States Food and Drug Administration, including under emergency use authorization. The ESC or school should comply with Section 125.035 of the Revised Code if applicable. More information can be found at the following links: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; United States Food and Drug Administration.

Improving ventilation systems, including windows or portable air purification systems

Allowable improvements to ventilations systems include repairs to existing windows to increase air flow, removeable window air conditioning units, portable air filters, portable air purification systems, and other portable/removeable improvements to ventilation systems. Items purchased under EANS must be removeable at the end of the performance period, and the ESC must retain the title to all supplies, equipment and materials purchased under EANS on behalf of the Department. EANS funds may not be used for construction. However, EANS funds may be used to pay for labor and installation of ventilation systems, even when the purchase of those ventilation systems is not allowable through EANS (see the EANS Frequently Asked Questions, page 7 for details).

Training and professional development for staff on sanitization, the use of PPE, and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases

Training and professional development is allowable on sanitization, the use of PPE, and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases. The ESC will work in consultation with the school to provide training and professional development for staff or to contract with a third-party provider to provide this training and professional development.

Physical barriers to facilitate social distancing

Allowable physical barriers to facilitate social distancing may include plexiglass barriers or other types of removeable barriers such as portable room dividers to facilitate social distancing. The school and the ESC should work to determine if physical barriers are reasonable and necessary to facilitate social distancing. The ESC should maintain title to any equipment, supplies and materials purchased under EANS.

Other materials, supplies or equipment recommended by the CDC for reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain health and safety

The CDC released Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning that contains guidelines to implement layered strategies to prevent the spread of infectious disease in school settings. A school may request materials, supplies and equipment recommended by the CDC for reopening and operation of school facilities, such as removeable classroom and school furnishings to facilitate social distancing or equipment to clean and disinfect facilities.

Expanding capacity to administer coronavirus testing to effectively monitor and suppress the virus

A school may request a nurse or school health associate to expand the capacity to administer coronavirus testing. The individual would need to be contracted and supervised by the ESC outside any contractual obligation to the nonpublic school. In addition, the ESC would work with the school to determine if such a request is reasonable and necessary in response to COVID-19. It is allowable for schools to request coronavirus screening and testing in line with CDC guidance, such as for communities at a high COVID-19 community level, high risk activities, or key times of the the school year.

Educational technology

Schools may request educational technology that is needed to respond to COVID-19. For instance, purchasing Chromebook devices to enable remote or hybrid learning would be considered allowable. While there are many examples of educational technology, funding requests should not be for permanent improvements such as technology infrastructure, cabling, wiring or other uses which would not be easily removeable at the end of the EANS performance period. Licenses for educational programs in response to COVID-19, such as for mitigating learning loss could be allowable. If the license will extend beyond the period of availability of the EANS program, the cost should be prorated to the final date of the EANS program (September 30, 2023 for CRRSA EANS, and September 30, 2024 for ARP EANS, respectively). It is important to note that the ESC contracted on behalf of the Department to provide services to the school must maintain the title for all supplies, equipment and materials purchased under EANS.

Redeveloping instructional plans for remote or hybrid learning or to address learning loss

Schools may request educational programs and products to redevelop the instructional plans for remote or hybrid learning or to address learning loss. Curriculum development specialists may be contracted and supervised by the ESC outside any contractual obligation to the nonpublic school to assist in redeveloping instructional plans. Schools could also request professional development, for instance if the school needs to implement a new instructional curriculum for learning loss. It is important to note that the ESC is responsible for maintaining control of EANS funds and would need coordinate and render services for related to professional development.

Leasing sites or spaces to ensure social distancing

Schools may request to lease a site or space to ensure social distancing, such as leasing a portable classroom or mobile unit. The ESC, on behalf of the Department, would ensure the proposed lease is reasonable and necessary and meets all requirements of the EANS program, as well as retain title to all equipment, materials

and supplies. Additionally, leases must end by the final date of the performance period of the EANS program (September 30, 2023 for CRRSA EANS, and September 30, 2024 for ARP EANS, respectively).

Reasonable transportation costs

Schools may request transportation costs that are reasonable and necessary in response to COVID-19. Transportation arrangements must meet all requirements of the EANS program. In particular, the ESC must retain control of the title or lease of transporation vehicles or contracts. All leases must end by the final date of the performance period of the EANS program (September 30, 2023 for CRRSA EANS, and September 30, 2024 for ARP EANS, respectively).

Initiating and maintaining education and support services or assistance for remote or hybrid learning or to address learning loss

There are many examples of allowable education and support services that enable the school to initiate or maintain remote or hybrid learning or to address learning loss. Services may include staff such as teachers, tutors, other academic support professionals, mental health specialists or social workers that are needed to initiate or maintain a remote/hybrid learning model or address learning loss. Staff funded out of EANS must be contracted and supervised by the ESC outside any contractual obligation to the nonpublic school. Additional allowable services in this category include costs for summer bridge programs, afterschool programming, and professional development or coursework for teachers to ensure they are prepared to address learning loss.

If you have questions about the EANS program, please contact eans@education.ohio.gov.