CCIP Note #538

Re: GEER II SNS Service Amounts and Next Steps to Receive Services
Date: October 27, 2023
To: Nonpublic School Principals, Education Service Center Authorized Representatives and Education Service Center Fiscal Representatives

GEER II Support for Nonpublic Schools (GEER II SNS)
On August 11, 2023, the Ohio Department of Education, now known as the Department of Education and Workforce (the Department) announced a program to support nonpublic schools impacted by COVID-19 called the GEER II Support for Nonpublic Schools (GEER II SNS) program. The Department will provide $26,192,054 in services to eligible nonpublic schools in Ohio through the GEER II SNS program. For more information, see CCIP Note 533.

In late August, the Department sent a GEER II SNS application to eligible nonpublic schools. Nonnpublic schools had to apply for GEER II SNS to receive a service amount. In total, 360 schools applied for the GEER II SNS program and received a service amount. The Department used a weighted approach to determine GEER II SNS service amounts based on total enrollment, poverty, requested amount on the application, eligibility due to PPP, eligibility for ARP EANS, and impact of COVID-19 data. More information can be found in CCIP Note 534.

GEER II SNS Service Amounts
The Department is pleased to announce the GEER II SNS Service Amounts. Under the GEER II SNS program, nonpublic schools are not considered direct recipients of federal funds. Rather, nonpublic schools receive services. The Department is contracting with Education Service Centers (ESCs) across Ohio to provide GEER II SNS services. The ESC service provider is listed for each school that received a GEER II SNS service amount.

Next Steps to Receive GEER II SNS Services
In early November, ESC providers will begin to consult with the nonpublic school principals to put allowable GEER II SNS services in place. ESCs will use the GEER II SNS Contact List to begin consultation. The ESCs will also refer to the nonpublic school's GEER II SNS application during consultation to help determine GEER II SNS services. The ESCs will ensure services are allowable and render the services and/or contract with a third party to render the service. The ESCs will provide the GEER II SNS services for the nonpublic schools by September 30, 2024.

Allowable Services
Schools that were ineligible for EANS/ARP EANS due to receiving a PPP loan on or after December 27, 2020, or schools that were ineligible for ARP EANS due to the poverty threshold may receive one or more of the following services:

- 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
- Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs;
- Providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence based full-service community schools and the hiring of counselors;
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including students from low-income families and children with disabilities;
- Addressing the needs of children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth; and
- Activities authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.

For nonpublic schools that received both EANS and ARP EANS but have additional needs in response to COVID-19, funds may be used to support literacy efforts aligned to the Science of Reading and Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement, including:

- Purchasing high-quality instructional materials;
- Professional development; and
- Literacy coaches.

GEER II SNS Webinars

The Department will host webinars for the GEER II SNS program. The webinars will cover GEER II SNS allowable services, ESC consultation, process to receive GEER II SNS services, and other topics related to the grant. The GEER II SNS webinars will occur on the following dates:

Webinar Topic	Date	Time	Link
GEER II SNS	Wednesday, November 1, 2023	11:00am – 12:00pm	Teams Link
GEER II SNS (Repeat Session)	Thursday, November 2, 2023	12:00pm – 1:00pm	Teams Link

GEER II SNS Guidance
The Department developed a GEER II SNS Frequently Asked Questions document. ESCs and nonpublic schools may use this guidance as well as the additional resources below to engage in consultation and implement GEER II SNS services.

Additional Resources
GEER II SNS Service Amounts
GEER II SNS Contact List
GEER II SNS Frequently Asked Questions
GEER II SNS Application Template
US Department of Education GEER Resources
Read Ohio Literacy Resources

For questions regarding the GEER II SNS program, please contact eans@education.ohio.gov.