

SCHOOL + STATE FINANCE PROJECT



FUNDING FOR K-12 EDUCATION IN THE CARES ACT

An overview of federal funding for elementary and secondary education in response to the coronavirus pandemic

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Summary

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) is a federal law, passed in response to the coronavirus pandemic, which provided \$2.2 trillion in emergency financial assistance to: individuals; state, local, and tribal governments; nonprofit organizations, including healthcare providers; and for-profit businesses.¹ Included in the CARES Act were provisions that provided funding for elementary and secondary education to help states and local educational agencies (LEAs) across the country respond to the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic.

How much money did the CARES Act provide to states for education?

A: The CARES Act included the establishment of a \$30.75 billion Education Stabilization Fund (ESF), of which approximately \$16.46 billion (53.5%) was distributed to states to support elementary and secondary education and help districts and schools prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.²

How was funding for K-12 education in the CARES Act allocated to states?

A: The CARES Act established three grant programs for the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) to distribute ESF dollars to states to support elementary and secondary education. These programs are the: Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants (\$307.5 million in total funding),^{3,4} Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund (\$2.95 billion in total funding), and Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund (\$13.2 billion in total funding).⁵

How much funding for K-12 education did Connecticut receive from the CARES Act?

A: Connecticut received \$138.8 million in CARES Act funding to help the State and its LEAs respond to the impact the coronavirus pandemic has had on elementary and secondary education.⁶ This included \$27.9 million in GEER funds as well as \$111 million in ESSER Fund dollars.⁷

How much funding did Connecticut's public school districts receive from the CARES Act?

A: Out of the over \$111 million the State received in ESSER Fund dollars, \$99.9 million was distributed to LEAs (including charter schools that are LEAs)⁸ with estimated individual LEA grants ranging from \$2,524 (Norfolk) to \$10.3 million (Hartford).⁹ The remaining \$11.1 million balance was reserved for state-level activities.¹⁰ The CSDE has indicated LEAs received 83 percent of their fiscal year 2020 Title I allocation and LEAs that did not receive a Title I allocation in FY 2020 were eligible to receive an emergency grant.¹¹ Importantly, LEAs are not required to use these funds in the same manner as they utilize Title I grants.¹²

In addition to the ESSER Fund allocations, Governor Ned Lamont has also committed an additional \$160 million to assist LEAs with necessary expenditures incurred during the declared public health emergency (specifically the period of March 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020) that were not budgeted for and will assist LEAs with delivering in-person, hybrid, and/or remote learning for Connecticut students.¹³

To date, the governor has announced awards to LEAs totaling \$130.8 million with estimated grants ranging from \$0 (Westport) to \$11.9 million (Hartford).¹⁴ The methodology employed by the CSDE to determine these grant amounts is not available at the time of this publication.¹⁵

What are the Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants?

A: The Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants program consists of two separate grants: the Education Stabilization Fund–Rethink K12 Education Model (ESF-REM) Grant and the Education Stabilization Fund–Reimagining Workforce Preparation (ESF-RWP) Grant.¹⁶ Both grants are competitive with the awards being based on the burden of the coronavirus pandemic on the applying state.¹⁷

The ESF-REM Grant provides funds to state education agencies (SEAs) to help them respond to the remote learning needs of the students in their state. The DOE awarded 11 ESF-REM grants to 11 out of 39 applicants totaling \$180.7 million. The average size of the award was \$16.4 million, with South Dakota receiving the smallest award of \$6.9 million and Tennessee receiving the largest award of \$20 million. The State of Connecticut did not receive a ESF-REM grant.¹⁸

Additionally, the ESF-RWP Grant is intended to assist states with the highest coronavirus burdens in creating new short-term educational opportunities and career pathway programs that help citizens return to work. The DOE has estimated \$127.5 million will be available for eight to nine awards under the program with awards ranging from \$5 million to \$20 million, with an average award size of \$15 million.¹⁹

What is the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund?

A: The GEER Fund provides formulaic grants to governors for the purpose of providing funding to LEAs, institutions of higher education, and other education related entities to address the impacts the coronavirus pandemic has had on students and parents. Funding provided by this grant can be used at the discretion of each governor, in any matter, as long as it provides for the continuation of educational services while schools are closed, or supports the ongoing maintenance of schools during said closure.²⁰

As a condition of receiving GEER funds, a state must maintain its support for elementary and secondary education in FYs 2020 and 2021 in an amount that is at least the average of the state’s support for K-12 education in FYs 2017 to 2019. However, the secretary of the DOE may waive this maintenance of effort requirement for the purpose of relieving fiscal burdens on states that have experienced a significant decline in revenues. Additionally, recipients of GEER funds are required to continue to pay their employees and contractors during the period of disruptions and closures.²¹

What is the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund?

A: The ESSER Fund provides grants to each SEA that has an approved application, in an amount equal to the same proportion as each state received in Title I funding in FY 2020. States are permitted to reserve not more than one-half of one percent of the total grant award for administrative costs, and are required to allocate not less than 90 percent of their total grant as subgrants to LEAs in proportion to the amount of funds each LEA received under Title I in FY 2020.²² States may reserve the remaining 10 percent of their ESSER Fund award for state-level activities to support a wide range of activities related to the coronavirus pandemic.²³

Similar to receiving GEER funds, if receiving ESSER Fund dollars, a state must maintain its support for elementary and secondary education in FYs 2020 and 2021 in an amount that is at least the average of the state’s support for K-12 education in FYs 2017 to 2019. The secretary of the DOE may waive this maintenance of effort requirement for the purpose of relieving fiscal burdens on states that have experienced a significant decline in revenues. Additionally, recipients of ESSER Fund dollars are required to continue to pay their employees and contractors during the period of disruptions and closures.²⁴

Endnotes

¹ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136

² Ibid.

³ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, § 18001

⁴ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary & Secondary Education. (2020, April 30). Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/states-highest-coronavirus-burden/>.

⁵ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, § 18001

⁶ School and State Finance Project. (2020). *Funding for K-12 Education in the CARES Act*. New Haven, CT: Author. Retrieved from <http://ctschoolfinance.org/resources/uploads/files/Funding-for-Education-in-the-CARES-Act.pdf>.

⁷ State of Connecticut, Office of the Governor. (2020, May 14). *Governor Lamont Announces Connecticut Receives \$111 Million in Coronavirus Relief Aid for Schools* [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/05-2020/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Connecticut-Receives-111-Million-in-Coronavirus-Relief-Aid-for-Schools>.

⁸ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. (2020, April 23). *Notice Announcing Availability of Funds and Deadline for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/ESSER-Fund-Notice-Final.pdf>.

⁹ Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Fiscal Services. (2020). *Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSERF) Under the CARES Act, 2020-2021 ESSERF District Entitlements*. Hartford, CT: Author.

¹⁰ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. (2020, April 23). *Notice Announcing Availability of Funds and Deadline for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/ESSER-Fund-Notice-Final.pdf>.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Demsey, K. (2020, April 14). *Letter from Chief Financial Officer of the Connecticut State Department of Education to Connecticut Superintendents of Schools with a Summary of the CARES Act and Frequently Asked Questions*. Hartford, CT: Connecticut State Department of Education. Retrieved from https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Digest/2019-20/CARES_Act_Summary-FAQ.pdf?la=en.

¹³ State of Connecticut, Office of the Governor. (2020, August 6). *Governor Lamont Announces Additional Coronavirus Relief Funding to Assist Connecticut School Districts With Fall Operations* [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/08-2020/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Additional-Coronavirus-Relief-Funding-to-Assist-Connecticut-Schools>.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Williams, H. (2020, August 25). Personal communication with the Education Section Chief, Office of Policy and Management, State of Connecticut.

¹⁶ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary & Secondary Education. (2020, April 30). Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/states-highest-coronavirus-burden/>.

¹⁷ Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) for the FY 2020 Education Stabilization Fund—Reimagine Workforce Preparation (ESF-RWP) Grants Program, 85 Fed. Reg. 37,636, 37,648 (June 23, 2020).

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and Office of Postsecondary Education. (2020, May). *Notice Announcing Availability of Funds and Deadline for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/05/GEER-Notice-of-Funds-Updated-FINAL.pdf>.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136

²³ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. (2020, April 23). *Notice Announcing Availability of Funds and Deadline for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/ESSER-Fund-Notice-Final.pdf>.

²⁴ Ibid.

Introduction

On March 27, 2020, President Donald Trump signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), which is the third bill passed by Congress in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The CARES Act is a \$2.2 trillion package that provides emergency financial assistance to: individuals; state, local, and tribal governments; nonprofit organizations, including healthcare providers; and for-profit businesses.¹ This policy briefing summarizes the provisions of the CARES Act that impact elementary and secondary education in the United States, and details the \$138.8 million the State of Connecticut is due to receive from the federal government in formulaic grant assistance to help the State and local educational agencies (LEAs) respond to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

Education Stabilization Fund

As part of the CARES Act, Congress established the \$30.75 billion Education Stabilization Fund to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.² The CARES Act requires the secretary of the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) to first allocate the monies as follows:

1. Not more than half of one percent, or not more than \$153.8 million, to outlying areas on the basis of their respective needs, as determined by the DOE secretary in consultation with the secretary of the Department of the Interior (DOI);
2. One-half of one percent, or \$153.8 million, for the DOI secretary, in consultation with the secretary of the DOE, to distribute for programs operated or funded by the Bureau of Indian Education; and
3. One percent, or \$307.5 million, for grants to states with the highest coronavirus burden to support activities that prevent, prepare, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.³ The DOE refers to these grants as the Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants.⁴

After providing said allotments, the DOE secretary is then required to allot the balance as follows:

1. 9.8 percent, or \$2.95 billion, for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund;
2. 43.9 percent, or \$13.2 billion, for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Fund; and
3. 46.3 percent, or \$14 billion, for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.⁵

Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants

While the CARES Act is silent on how the Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants are to be distributed and utilized, the DOE has provided context to these funds, which will be awarded to states with approved applications that have the highest

**Note: Originally published on May 19, 2020, this policy briefing was updated and republished on August 31, 2020 to include the most up-to-date data and information, as well as an addendum about additional funding to local education agencies for expenses necessary for operating during the coronavirus pandemic.*

coronavirus burden. The DOE has established two separate grants to distribute the \$307.5 million: the Education Stabilization Fund–Rethink K12 Education Model (ESF-REM) Grant and the Education Stabilization Fund–Reimagining Workforce Preparation (ESF-RWP) Grant.⁶

Both of the Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants are competitive with the awards being based on the burden of the coronavirus pandemic on the state of the applying state education agency (SEA). To determine the burden of the state, the DOE will factor the initial number of unemployment claims filed as a percentage of the civilian labor force as well as the state's share of the confirmed coronavirus cases per capita.⁷

To be considered for funding under the Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants, all grantees must provide equitable access to students who do not attend public schools. The DOE has defined this as the same opportunity to access program benefits as students who attend public schools, which may include proportional provision of services to both public and nonpublic school students.⁸

Education Stabilization Fund–Rethink K12 Education Model Grant

The ESF-REM Grant provides monies to SEAs to respond to the remote learning needs of the students of their respective state.⁹ When applying for the ESF-REM Grant, the applying SEA must address one of the three absolute priorities the DOE has identified for the grant.¹⁰

Absolute Priority 1 requires that SEAs provide funding through microgrants to parents to allow them to address the individual learning needs of their children with distance learning.¹¹ The DOE guidance requires that if SEAs are applying for these continued learning parent microgrants, the SEA must:

1. Provide parents with a list of service providers from which the parents may select;
2. Include more than one education service for the parent to choose, which may include:
 - a. Tuition and fees for a public or private online course or program;
 - b. Concurrent and dual enrollments at a postsecondary institution, particularly for career and technical education experiences;
 - c. Special education and related services, including therapies;
 - d. Contracted educational services provided by a public or nonpublic school;
 - e. Tutoring;
 - f. Summer or afterschool education programs;
 - g. Testing preparation and examination fees, including Advanced Placement examinations, industry certificate exams, and any examinations related to college or university admission;
 - h. Academic, college, and career counseling services;
 - i. Textbooks, curriculum, or other instructional materials; or
 - j. Other education-related services and materials that are reasonable and necessary, which may include (but may not be the only microgrant use):

- i. Computer hardware, software, or other technological devices including adaptive devices;
 - ii. Internet access or hotspots; or
 - iii. Textbooks, curriculum, or other instructional material.
3. Provide an online, or other, method that enables parents to select services and:
 - a. Reaches out to the most disadvantaged parents and students;
 - b. Ensures funds will be transferred directly from the State to the selected service provider;
 - c. Includes multiple service providers, including non-government service providers; and
 - d. Provides tools to help parents choose the most appropriate and effective services for their children.
4. Include a parent involvement and feedback process that:
 - a. Describes a way for parents to request services or providers that are not currently offered, and provide input on services provided;
 - b. Supports the grantee in outreach and assistance to parents;
 - c. Includes a fair and documented process to choose students to be served, such as a lottery or other transparent criteria;
 - d. Ensures at least 80 percent of grant funds are used for service directly utilized by public and nonpublic school students under the microgrants, and that no more than five percent of grant funds are used for administrative costs.¹²

Absolute Priority 2 is suited for those SEAs that are focused on expanding high-quality course programs or statewide virtual schools.¹³ Statewide course-access programs and virtual schools enable students to select from different courses, including advanced courses, offered by any public school in the state or by third-party providers — regardless of the district where the student resides.¹⁴ To be eligible for a grant under Absolute Priority 2, the SEA must demonstrate the proposed project will enhance the broad range of widely available free for all students programming in their state, in addition to:

1. Developing a statewide virtual learning or course-access program, by:
 - a. Designing and assembling high-quality educational content; and
 - b. Creating and launching a statewide virtual learning program.
2. Expanding an existing statewide virtual learning or high-quality course-access program, by:
 - a. Serving more students;
 - b. Adding new courses based on student and parent interest or alignment with workforce development needs; and
 - c. Implementing new instruction strategies.

In addition to the requirements above, in order to be funded, the SEA must propose a project that:

1. Implements a statewide course-access program or virtual school;
2. Widely disseminates information on the availability of these programs; and
3. Includes a parent involvement and feedback process that:

- a. Describes a way for parents to request courses or programs that are not currently offered;
- b. May include a parent liaison to support the grantee in outreach to parents and vice versa; and
- c. Includes a fair and documented process to choose students to be served, such as a lottery or other transparent criteria.¹⁵

Applicants for Priority 2 grants must also describe: how they will determine the courses or programming that will be developed or expanded, how they will determine if such courses or programs are high-quality, and how chosen programs or courses will meet student needs.¹⁶

Absolute Priority 3 allows SEAs to apply for funding that supports their own educational strategies to address the specific educational needs of the students of their state as it relates to remote learning.¹⁷ To apply for this priority grant, which the DOE has titled Field Initiated Projects for Remote Learning to Improve Student Outcomes, the SEA needs to describe the rationale of their proposed project and demonstrate that the project creates, develop, implements, replicates, or takes to scale field-initiated models for remote learning.¹⁸

The availability of the ESF-REM Grant funds does not require matching or cost sharing funds from the applying SEA, however, there are a number of application requirements, including:

- A description of how the applicant will address the absolute priority that they are applying for, including an implementation plan and timeline;
- An analysis of the needs of the state to support remote learning and how this project would address those needs;
- A description of the coronavirus burden of the state and how it has impacted students, parents, and schools;
- An analysis of how the state has already worked to improve the outcomes for students during the coronavirus emergency, including steps taken at the time of the application to address immediate educational needs and the additional barriers the SEA is facing;
- Assurances that the SEA will provide information to the DOE secretary as requested; and
- Demonstrated support for the proposed project by the governor of the state.¹⁹

The DOE, which has requested that a SEA notify the department with their intent to apply, has established selection criteria for this grant competition where applicants can earn up to a total of 100 points based on the following:

- Up to 40 points for those states with the highest coronavirus burden
 - Up to the 10th percentile of coronavirus burden = 4 points
 - 21st to 40th percentile of coronavirus burden = 8 points
 - 41st to 60th percentile of coronavirus burden = 12 points
 - 61st to 80th percentile of coronavirus burden = 16 points
 - 81st to 100th percentile of coronavirus burden = 20 points

- Up to 35 points for the quality of project services and the project plan consisting of:
 - Up to five points for equal access and treatment for project participants that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, age, gender, or disability;
 - Up to 10 points for the extent to which the proposed project addresses the absolute priority for which the SEA is applying to address;
 - Up to 10 points for the extent to which the proposed project addresses gaps and weaknesses in education services or infrastructure;
 - Up to five points for the anticipated improvements in student outcomes; and
 - Up to five points for the utilization of up-to-date knowledge from research and best practices.
- Up to 25 points for the quality of the management plan and adequacy of resources, including:
 - Up to five points for the proposed management plan, including clearly defined roles and responsibilities and timelines;
 - Up to five points for the extent to which the proposed use of funds will adequately support the scope of the project;
 - Up to five points that the estimated costs are reasonable as compared to the estimated scope of the project; and
 - Up to 10 points for the extent to which the estimated cost is reasonable as it relates to the number of students anticipated to be served by the project.²⁰

The DOE awarded 11 ESF-REM grants to 11 out of 39 applicants totaling \$180.7 million. The average size of the award was \$16.4 million, with South Dakota receiving the smallest award of \$6.9 million and Tennessee receiving the largest award of \$20 million. The State of Connecticut did not receive a ESF-REM grant.²¹

Education Stabilization Fund – Reimagining Workforce Preparation Grant

The ESF-RWP Grant is created by the DOE to assist states with the highest coronavirus burdens in creating new short-term educational opportunities and career pathway programs that help citizens return to work, such as coursework that will assist small businesses in their recovery and help entrepreneurs be successful.²²

Eligible applicants for ESF-RWP Grant funds are either a State Workforce Board or a state agency or entity that is designated by the State Workforce Board.²³ When applying for the ESF-RWP Grant, the applying entity is required to address one of the two absolute priorities the DOE has identified for the grant.²⁴

Absolute Priority 1 projects are those that develop or implement short-term education and training programs and/or career pathway programs in partnership with groups of employers, industry organizations, and education and training partners. The programs are required to lead to certificates, badges, micro-credentials, licenses, or other workplace-relevant credentials that respond to the needs of employers or facilitate entrepreneurship.²⁵

Priority 1 Grant funds may be used to hire qualified instructors, procure necessary equipment and supplies, and subsidize tuition and fees for individuals enrolled in these or existing career pathway programs so that participants can quickly gain entry to the workforce or become entrepreneurs without taking on debt. Funds may also be used to provide students uniforms, protective gear, student support services and transportation vouchers for all students, as well as childcare support for student-parents who are enrolled in education and training programs funded by this grant.²⁶

The U.S. Department of Education has indicated that they will give competitive preference under Priority 1 to those applicants that propose a project in which the short-term educational programs and training programs include didactic education that will be principally delivered through distance learning. Another competitive preference will be provided to those applications that propose a project that focus on the unique needs of individuals that reside in rural communities or Opportunity Zones, and that is designed to enable economic growth and development in those regions. State Workforce Boards are permitted to use Priority 1 grant funding to provide subgrants to business organizations, trade associations, education and training organizations and institutions of higher education to achieve the goals as stated in their application.²⁷

Absolute Priority 2 projects are those that are designed to cultivate entrepreneurship by supporting the development of small business incubators located on the campuses of, or developed in association with, colleges and universities. The goal of Priority 2 is to improve the sustainability of institutions of higher education, expand learning in the state, support the continued employment of faculty and staff at educational organizations, and create new, opportunities for entrepreneurs and small business owners to grow, become more resilient and thrive. The incubators are required to provide short-term educational and training programs or continuing education course to help entrepreneurs establish and grow their business, comply with industry standards, and meet State and occupational health, safety and licensure requirements.²⁸

Grant funding under Priority 2 can be used to convert underutilized campus-based or campus-affiliated facilities to small business incubators, to hire staff to operate the facility, to subsidize wages of faculty and entrepreneurs-in-residence, to purchase or rent equipment that will serve as a shared resource for incubator occupants or support the work of the incubator's administrative staff, to subsidize the cost to participants of enrolling in short-courses or continuing education opportunities and to subsidize on a sliding scale the rent paid by small businesses that are operating out of or using space, facilities or shared equipment or services provided by the incubator.²⁹

The U.S. Department of Education has indicated that they will give competitive preference under Priority 1 to those applicants that serve entrepreneurs and businesses in a rural community or Opportunity Zone. State Workforce Boards are permitted to use Priority 2 grant funding to colleges and universities, and/or college or university-affiliated entities to support the development or expansion of campus-based or campus-affiliated small business incubator programs and facilities.³⁰

The DOE has estimated \$127.5 million will be available for awards under the ESF-REM Grant program. The department has further estimated that the range of awards under this program is anticipated to be from \$5 million to \$20 million, with an estimated eight to nine awards and an average award size of \$15 million.³¹

The DOE has established selection criteria for this grant competition where applicants can earn up to a total of 100 points based on the following:

- Up to 40 points for those states with the highest coronavirus burden
 - Up to the 20th percentile of coronavirus burden = 4 points
 - 21st to 40th percentile of coronavirus burden = 8 points
 - 41st to 60th percentile of coronavirus burden = 12 points
 - 61st to 80th percentile of coronavirus burden = 16 points
 - 81st to 100th percentile of coronavirus burden = 20 points
 - Up to 20 points for the extent to which the applicants has a high coronavirus burden
- Up to 35 points for the quality of project services and the project plan consisting of:
 - Up to 10 points for the extent to which the proposed project is an exceptional approach to the absolute priority being addressed and includes a detailed project plan for addressing the absolute priority;
 - Up to 10 points for the extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project;
 - Up to five points for the project's sufficiency for ensuring the equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability;
 - Up to five points for the likelihood that the proposed project will expand access to remote learning options and lead to improvements in student outcomes (for applicants under Priority 1); or the likelihood that services to be provided by the project will increase the number and success of small businesses in a state or region (for applicants under Priority 2) and
 - Up to five points for the utilization of up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practices.
- Up to 25 points for the quality of the management plan and adequacy of resources, including:
 - Up to five points for the proposed management plan, including clearly defined roles and responsibilities and timelines;
 - Up to five points for the extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project;
 - Up to five points that the estimated costs are reasonable as compared to the estimated scope of the project; and
 - Up to 10 points for the extent to which the estimated cost is reasonable as it relates to the number of persons anticipated to be served by the project and to the anticipated results and benefits.³²

Applications for consideration of ESF-RWP funding was made available on June 23, 2020. A notice for the intent to apply was required by July 13, 2020 with applications formally transmitted to the DOE by August 24, 2020.

Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund

The Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund provides grants by formula to governors for the purpose of providing funding to LEAs, institutions of higher education, and other education related entities to address the impacts the coronavirus pandemic has had on students and parents across the country.³³ In addition to the governors of the 50 states, the governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the mayor of the District of Columbia are eligible to receive GEER dollars.³⁴

Funding provided by this grant can be used at the discretion of each governor, in any matter, as long as it provides for the continuation of educational services while schools are closed, or supports the on-going maintenance of schools during said closure.³⁵ The State of Connecticut received \$27,881,682 in GEER funds.³⁶

In a letter announcing the GEER application to governors, the secretary of the DOE refers to this funding as an "extraordinary flexible emergency block grant" to support the needs of all students, schools (including charter schools and nonpublic schools), postsecondary institutions, and other education-related organizations so that "faculty continue to teach and students continue to learn."³⁷

The CARES Act requires the \$2.95 billion appropriated for the GEER Fund be allocated to states as follows:

- 60 percent on the basis of their relative population of children aged five through 24; and
- 40 percent on the basis of the relative number of children counted under section 1124(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.^A

The CARES Act allows governors to use the funds to provide emergency support through grants to LEAs or institutions of higher education that have been deemed to have been the most significantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, to support the ability of the LEA or the institution to continue to provide educational services and to support the ongoing functionality of the LEA or institution.³⁸ In addition to providing funds to LEAs and institutions of higher education, governors are also permitted to provide these funds to any other education-related entity the governor deems essential for carrying out emergency educational services, including the provision of child care and early childhood education, social and emotional support, and the protection of education-related jobs.³⁹

^A Section 1124(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 is better known as Title I, a federal program that seeks to improve the academic achievement of the disadvantaged by providing federal funds to LEAs based on the number of children aged 5 to 17 in the school district who are either living in poverty or are neglected and delinquent.

As a condition of receiving GEER funds, a state must maintain its support for elementary and secondary education and support for higher education, including state need-based financial aid, in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 in an amount that is at least the average of such state's support for elementary and secondary education and higher education in FYs 2017 to 2019. The secretary of the DOE may waive this maintenance of effort requirement for the purpose of relieving fiscal burdens on states that have experienced a significant decline in revenues.⁴⁰

In addition to the maintenance of effort requirement, the DOE is requiring that recipients of GEER funds continue to pay their employees and contractors during the period of disruptions and closures. While protecting the salaries of education-related jobs such as teachers, aides, lunchroom staff, bus drivers, and other related positions, the DOE placed conditions on the use of GEER funds for payments to administrators and executives of SEAs, institutions of higher education, or education-related entities without clear evidence that such a payment will support the ongoing functionality of the entity. Any such payments are required to be separately identified and accounted to the DOE.⁴¹

The DOE is requiring that any LEA that receives GEER funds provide equitable services to students and teachers in nonpublic schools located within the LEA, as determined through timely and meaningful consultation with representatives of nonpublic schools.⁴² The DOE has indicated that additional guidance on this equitable services requirement will be provided in the future.⁴³

GEER funds that are not awarded by governors within one year of receiving their state's allocation are required to be returned to the secretary of the DOE to be reallocated to other states utilizing the same formula as the original round of funding.⁴⁴

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund provides grants to each SEA that has an approved application, in an amount equal to the same proportion as each state received in Title I funding in FY 2020.⁴⁵ In addition to the governors of the 50 states, the governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the mayor of the District of Columbia are eligible to receive ESSER Fund dollars.⁴⁶

States are permitted to reserve not more than one-half of one percent of the total grant award for administrative costs, and are required to allocate not less than 90 percent of the grant awarded to the state as subgrants to LEAs, including charter schools that are LEAs, in proportion to the amount of funds each LEA and charter school received under Title I in FY 2020.⁴⁷ States may reserve the remaining 10 percent of their ESSER Fund award for state-level activities to address issues related to the coronavirus pandemic.⁴⁸ The CSDE has indicated LEAs will receive 83 percent of their FY 2020 Title I allocation and LEAs that did not receive a Title I allocation in FY 2020 will be considered eligible to receive an emergency grant from the statewide reservation.⁴⁹ In addition, while the State needs to allocate monies to LEAs in proportion to their Title I allocation from FY 2020, LEAs are not required to use these funds in the same manner as they utilize Title I grants.⁵⁰

On May 14, 2020, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont announced the State will receive \$111,068,059 in ESSER Fund dollars.⁵¹ Of this amount, \$99.9 million was distributed to LEAs with the \$11.1 million balance reserved for state-level activities.⁵² When applying for these funds, LEAs were asked to submit information to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) including how the district plans on utilizing the ESSER Fund dollars, how the district decided to use the funds in that manner, and how enhanced remote learning is contained in their plan.⁵³

Table 1 in the Appendix provides the maximum ESSER Fund grants LEAs in Connecticut may receive if their application is approved by the CSDE.

LEAs can expend the ESSER Fund grants to support a wide range of activities, including:

- Improving coordination to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic;
- Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address the individual needs of their individual schools;
- Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children, children with disabilities, English Learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth;
- Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEAs;
- Training and professional development for staff of the LEA on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;
- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a LEA.
- Planning for, and coordinating during, long-term closures, including: how to provide meals to eligible students, how to provide technology for online learning to all students, how to provide guidance for carrying out requirements under the IDEA, and how to ensure other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all federal, state, and local requirements;
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity), for students who are served by the LEA, which aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, particularly for low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment;
- Providing mental health services and supports;
- Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English Learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care;
- Other activities necessary to maintain the operation of, and continuity of, services in LEAs; and
- Continuing to employ existing staff.⁵⁴

In addition, the ESSER Fund grants can be used to support any activity authorized by the following federal acts:

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, including the Native Hawaiian Education Act and the Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act;
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;
- Adult Education and Family Literacy Act;
- Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006; or
- Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.⁵⁵

The DOE is requiring that any LEA that receives ESSER Fund dollars must provide equitable services to students and teachers in nonpublic schools located within the LEA, as determined through timely and meaningful consultation with representatives of nonpublic schools. The DOE has indicated that additional guidance on this equitable services requirement will be provided in the future.⁵⁶

As a condition of receiving ESSER Fund dollars, a state must maintain support for elementary and secondary education and higher education, including state need-based financial aid, in FYs 2020 and 2021 in an amount that is at least the average of such state's support for elementary and secondary education and higher education in FYs 2017 to 2019. The secretary of the DOE may waive this maintenance of effort requirement for the purpose of relieving fiscal burdens on states that have experienced a significant decline in revenues.⁵⁷

In addition to the maintenance of effort requirement, the DOE is requiring that recipients of ESSER Fund dollars continue to pay their employees and contractors during the period of disruptions and closures. Unless it is directly related to the disruptions and closures, ESSER Fund dollars are not allowed to be used to fund bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenditures.⁵⁸

ESSER Fund grants that are not awarded by governors within one year of receiving their state's allocation are required to be returned to the secretary of the DOE to be reallocated to other states utilizing the same formula as the original round of funding.⁵⁹

The CARES Act required the secretary of the DOE to issue a notice inviting applications for these funds within 30 days of the enactment of the CARES Act, and to approve or deny applications no later than 30 days after the department has received said application.⁶⁰

Appendix

Table 1: Maximum Possible ESSER Fund Grant Amount for Each Connecticut Local Education Agency (LEA), 2020-21⁶¹

Local Education Agency (LEA)	Maximum ESSER Fund Grant Amount
Andover	\$13,457
Ansonia	\$792,378
Ashford	\$51,868
Avon	\$83,463
Barkhamsted	\$6,893
Berlin	\$144,775
Bethany	\$29,321
Bethel	\$236,455
Bloomfield	\$393,344
Bolton	\$17,146
Bozrah	\$22,702
Branford	\$303,771
Bridgeport	\$9,150,485
Bristol	\$1,821,165
Brookfield	\$74,096
Brooklyn	\$179,999
Canterbury	\$84,775
Canton	\$39,010
Chaplin	\$22,693
Cheshire	\$99,144
Chester	\$23,407
Clinton	\$166,618
Colchester	\$211,529
Colebrook	\$7,013
Columbia	\$22,991
Cornwall	\$22,811
Coventry	\$117,663
Cromwell	\$148,733
Danbury	\$2,286,030
Darien	\$134,611
Deep River	\$27,888
Derby	\$378,589
East Granby	\$53,231
East Haddam	\$30,896
East Hampton	\$42,940
East Hartford	\$2,122,495
East Haven	\$640,899
East Lyme	\$171,660
East Windsor	\$160,783
Eastford	\$8,948

Local Education Agency (LEA)	Maximum ESSER Fund Grant Amount
Easton	\$27,572
Ellington	\$51,396
Enfield	\$729,380
Essex	\$14,016
Fairfield	\$286,796
Farmington	\$229,979
Franklin	\$13,345
Glastonbury	\$152,314
Granby	\$47,222
Greenwich	\$854,526
Griswold	\$261,461
Groton	\$686,882
Guilford	\$117,914
Hamden	\$987,239
Hampton	\$13,195
Hartford	\$10,314,679
Hartland	\$22,603
Hebron	\$12,368
Kent	\$17,713
Killingly	\$382,737
Lebanon	\$47,573
Ledyard	\$207,514
Lisbon	\$50,186
Litchfield	\$75,920
Madison	\$77,770
Manchester	\$1,540,381
Mansfield	\$90,364
Marlborough	\$14,850
Meriden	\$2,385,510
Middletown	\$722,848
Milford	\$529,475
Monroe	\$115,515
Montville	\$269,037
Naugatuck	\$839,634
New Britain	\$5,165,707
New Canaan	\$99,710
New Fairfield	\$201,385
New Hartford	\$13,344
New Haven	\$8,506,997
New London	\$1,903,788
New Milford	\$300,856
Newington	\$315,040
Newtown	\$141,090
Norfolk	\$2,524

Local Education Agency (LEA)	Maximum ESSER Fund Grant Amount
North Branford	\$64,976
North Canaan	\$33,725
North Haven	\$213,713
North Stonington	\$37,473
Norwalk	\$2,084,380
Norwich	\$1,920,228
Old Saybrook	\$101,399
Orange	\$37,003
Oxford	\$76,746
Plainfield	\$347,996
Plainville	\$362,176
Plymouth	\$158,692
Pomfret	\$19,757
Portland	\$70,382
Preston	\$63,532
Putnam	\$255,949
Redding	\$27,805
Regional School District 1	\$39,407
Regional School District 4	\$24,567
Regional School District 5	\$55,040
Regional School District 6	\$28,046
Regional School District 7	\$24,123
Regional School District 8	\$28,641
Regional School District 9	\$19,151
Regional School District 10	\$74,535
Regional School District 11	\$34,748
Regional School District 12	\$24,013
Regional School District 13	\$43,915
Regional School District 14	\$55,327
Regional School District 15	\$118,590
Regional School District 16	\$75,031
Regional School District 17	\$45,545
Regional School District 18	\$41,197
Regional School District 19	\$88,775
Ridgefield	\$94,454
Rocky Hill	\$194,570
Salem	\$25,219
Salisbury	\$3,712
Scotland	\$13,154
Seymour	\$229,844
Sharon	\$47,086
Shelton	\$409,587
Sherman	\$16,846
Simsbury	\$97,059

Local Education Agency (LEA)	Maximum ESSER Fund Grant Amount
Somers	\$38,879
South Windsor	\$122,146
Southington	\$418,982
Sprague	\$74,765
Stafford	\$187,342
Stamford	\$2,739,520
Sterling	\$58,407
Stonington	\$280,435
Stratford	\$990,218
Suffield	\$270,425
Thomaston	\$80,233
Thompson	\$132,957
Tolland	\$45,904
Torrington	\$660,682
Trumbull	\$158,757
Union	\$7,279
Vernon	\$457,965
Voluntown	\$32,674
Wallingford	\$469,972
Waterbury	\$9,394,519
Waterford	\$261,815
Watertown	\$197,225
West Hartford	\$902,078
West Haven	\$2,034,327
Westbrook	\$64,503
Weston	\$51,548
Westport	\$141,129
Wethersfield	\$274,045
Willington	\$60,567
Wilton	\$77,995
Winchester	\$191,756
Windham	\$1,499,668
Windsor	\$476,801
Windsor Locks	\$228,358
Wolcott	\$198,698
Woodbridge	\$45,593
Woodstock	\$133,782
ACES	\$330,797
C.E.S.	\$63,105
CREC	\$2,239,726
EASTCONN	\$72,256
LEARN	\$317,365
Achievement First Bridgeport Academy	\$445,411
Achievement First Hartford Academy	\$673,379

Local Education Agency (LEA)	Maximum ESSER Fund Grant Amount
Amistad Academy	\$448,192
Booker T. Washington Academy	\$128,907
Brass City Charter School	\$78,013
Bridge Academy	\$102,537
Capital Prep Harbor	\$200,685
Common Ground High School	\$69,643
Elm City College Preparatory School	\$316,138
Elm City Montessori Charter School	\$33,624
Explorations	\$10,600
Great Oaks Charter School	\$197,435
Highville Charter School	\$119,308
Integrated Day Charter School	\$57,571
ISAAC	\$130,506
Jumoke Academy	\$269,315
New Beginnings Family Academy	\$187,061
Odyssey Community School	\$42,517
Park City Prep Charter School	\$151,006
Side by Side Community School	\$45,700
Stamford Charter School for Excellence	\$46,580
CT Technical Education and Career System	\$2,706,783

Addendum

The following addendum to the policy briefing was added on August 31, 2020. The policy briefing was originally published on May 19, 2020.

On August 6, 2020, Governor Lamont announced an additional \$160 million of the aid the State of Connecticut received through the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund^B will be made available to LEAs to assist with expenses necessary for operating during the coronavirus pandemic.⁶² The \$160 million is in addition to the \$15 million from the GEER Fund and \$111 million from the ESSER Fund that was previously committed to LEAs. In total, Connecticut's LEAs have received \$266 million in coronavirus-related funding.⁶³

The \$160 million in additional funding is intended to assist LEAs with necessary expenditures incurred during the declared public health emergency (specifically the period of March 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020) that were not budgeted for and will assist LEAs with delivering in-person, hybrid, and/or remote learning for Connecticut students.⁶⁴ Examples of eligible expenses that may be paid for by the additional funding include:

- Personal protective equipment, masks, and cleaning supplies;
- Bus monitors to assist students and ensure social distancing;
- Additional bus routes to accommodate social distancing;
- Laptops and at-home internet connections;
- Additional staff to support new models of remote learning and socially distant classrooms; and
- Support staff and services for students with special learning and language needs.⁶⁵

The CSDE announced how a portion (\$130.8 million) of the \$160 million will be distributed to LEAs with a breakdown of how each LEA intends to spend the additional financial support.^{C, 66, 67} Table 2 on the following page provides the distribution of these funds to LEAs as reported by the CSDE. The methodology employed by the CSDE to determine these grant amounts is not available at the time of this publication.⁶⁸ Additionally, it is not known if LEAs must utilize allocated funds in the exact manner presented by the CSDE, and/or if the CSDE will audit the expenditure of these funds.

^B The CARES Act established the \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund to be used by state, local, and tribal governments to cover necessary expenditures incurred as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The \$160 million announced by Governor Lamont for LEAs will come from the portion of Coronavirus Relief Fund aid the State of Connecticut received.

^C Shortly after releasing the list of how much additional funding each LEA would receive for expenses necessary for operating during the coronavirus pandemic, the CSDE revised the allocated amounts to LEAs for Personnel Related Supports: Transportation and Non-Personnel Related Supports: Transportation based on each LEA's reopening plan and anticipated expenses. These revised allocated amounts are reflected in Table 2.

Rabe Thomas, J. (2020, August 27). State adjusts how much aid it will send school districts. *The Connecticut Mirror*. Retrieved from <https://ctmirror.org/2020/08/27/ct-adjusts-how-much-aid-it-will-send-school-districts/>.

Table 2: Allocation of Additional Funding to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) for Expenses Necessary for Operating During the Coronavirus Pandemic^{69,70}

LEA	Personnel Related Supports				Non-Personnel Related Supports		TOTAL
	Academic	Student Supports	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Total Allocation
Achievement First Bridgeport Academy	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$375,088	\$0	\$375,088
Achievement First Hartford Academy	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$242,967	\$0	\$242,967
Amistad Academy	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$306,830	\$0	\$306,830
Andover	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,736	\$15,000	\$0	\$18,736
Ansonia	\$311,425	\$194,656	\$5,990	\$38,641	\$821,000	\$0	\$1,371,712
ACES	\$178,752	\$243,320	\$4,815	\$32,357	\$0	\$103,965	\$563,209
Ashford	\$0	\$0	\$1,023	\$0	\$26,000	\$0	\$27,023
Avon	\$0	\$0	\$8,353	\$0	\$30,452	\$0	\$38,805
Barkhamsted	\$0	\$0	\$574	\$0	\$40,000	\$72,779	\$113,353
Berlin	\$0	\$0	\$7,225	\$0	\$343,450	\$94,000	\$444,675
Bethany	\$0	\$0	\$970	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$25,970
Bethel	\$0	\$0	\$8,256	\$40,000	\$440,000	\$75,000	\$563,256
Bloomfield	\$738,873	\$301,453	\$5,785	\$40,831	\$173,313	\$334,140	\$1,594,395
Bolton	\$0	\$0	\$2,043	\$0	\$94,000	\$37,783	\$133,826
Booker T. Washington Academy	\$119,168	\$24,332	\$1,101	\$8,997	\$165,000	\$0	\$318,598
Bozrah	\$79,445	\$7,300	\$498	\$3,804	\$400,000	\$45,942	\$536,989
Branford	\$0	\$0	\$7,348	\$0	\$23,069	\$46,710	\$77,127
Brass City Charter School	\$42,185	\$1,606	\$855	\$0	\$54,500	\$0	\$99,146
Bridgeport	\$1,000,000	\$243,319	\$53,267	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$1,998,527	\$4,795,113
Bristol	\$329,698	\$389,311	\$20,918	\$39,600	\$412,000	\$42,000	\$1,233,527
Brookfield	\$0	\$0	\$6,879	\$0	\$24,000	\$23,130	\$54,009
Brooklyn	\$0	\$0	\$2,408	\$0	\$5,000	\$146,676	\$154,084
Canaan	\$0	\$0	\$176	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$176
Canterbury	\$0	\$0	\$1,246	\$11,372	\$115,000	\$25,670	\$153,288
Canton	\$0	\$0	\$4,128	\$30,758	\$157,500	\$3,500	\$195,886
Capital Preparatory Harbor School	\$95,334	\$165,457	\$1,993	\$13,355	\$148,000	\$0	\$424,139
CREC	\$1,588,906	\$486,639	\$22,704	\$0	\$3,600,000	\$0	\$5,698,249
Chaplin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,334	\$14,600	\$0	\$17,934
Cheshire	\$0	\$0	\$11,012	\$75,063	\$600,000	\$20,000	\$706,075
Chester	\$0	\$0	\$488	\$0	\$43,104	\$29,501	\$73,093
Clinton	\$0	\$0	\$4,411	\$3,000	\$102,000	\$5,000	\$114,411
Colchester	\$0	\$0	\$6,090	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,090
Colebrook	\$0	\$0	\$194	\$0	\$96,000	\$0	\$96,194
Columbia	\$0	\$0	\$1,075	\$12,561	\$0	\$0	\$13,636
Common Ground High School	\$147,768	\$65,696	\$0	\$0	\$107,000	\$135,817	\$456,281
C.E.S.	\$103,989	\$2,433	\$2,253	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$108,675
Cornwall	\$0	\$0	\$228	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,228
Coventry	\$0	\$0	\$4,401	\$0	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$31,901
Cromwell	\$0	\$0	\$5,198	\$0	\$496,340	\$0	\$501,538
Danbury	\$397,226	\$133,826	\$31,282	\$210,692	\$400,000	\$150,000	\$1,323,026
Darien	\$0	\$0	\$12,497	\$0	\$285,000	\$50,000	\$347,497
Deep River	\$0	\$0	\$616	\$0	\$63,651	\$31,534	\$95,801

	Personnel Related Supports				Non-Personnel Related Supports		TOTAL
LEA	Academic	Student Supports	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Total Allocation
Derby	\$35,000	\$46,231	\$3,396	\$10,000	\$135,000	\$54,000	\$283,627
East Granby	\$0	\$0	\$2,192	\$13,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,192
East Haddam	\$0	\$0	\$2,615	\$0	\$100,000	\$47,077	\$149,692
East Hampton	\$0	\$0	\$4,831	\$25,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$74,831
East Hartford	\$3,200,000	\$48,664	\$17,815	\$139,546	\$650,000	\$100,000	\$4,156,025
East Haven	\$1,697,500	\$92,461	\$7,590	\$72,758	\$475,000	\$581,455	\$2,926,764
East Lyme	\$0	\$0	\$7,063	\$52,673	\$100,000	\$134,999	\$294,735
East Windsor	\$55,612	\$7,300	\$2,830	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$315,742
EASTCONN	\$42,106	\$0	\$1,243	\$0	\$498,945	\$0	\$542,294
Eastford	\$0	\$0	\$396	\$3,027	\$67,800	\$0	\$71,223
Easton	\$0	\$0	\$2,321	\$0	\$35,000	\$49,981	\$87,302
EdAdvance	\$33,764	\$4,866	\$695	\$11,714	\$100,000	\$18,656	\$169,695
Ellington	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$40,000	\$140,000
Elm City College Preparatory School	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$267,264	\$0	\$267,264
Elm City Montessori School	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$44,000	\$0	\$44,000
Enfield	\$764,661	\$0	\$0	\$111,026	\$110,000	\$10,000	\$995,687
Essex	\$0	\$0	\$868	\$0	\$117,245	\$50,456	\$168,569
Explorations	\$10,725	\$0	\$244	\$0	\$41,000	\$4,568	\$56,537
Fairfield	\$0	\$0	\$25,363	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$464,515	\$689,878
Farmington	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,100	\$431,568	\$0	\$466,668
Franklin	\$0	\$0	\$420	\$4,810	\$80,000	\$34,822	\$120,052
Glastonbury	\$0	\$0	\$15,303	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$265,303
Granby	\$0	\$0	\$4,718	\$36,416	\$365,000	\$145,686	\$551,820
Great Oaks Charter School	\$61,173	\$46,231	\$1,456	\$0	\$71,000	\$0	\$179,860
Greenwich	\$0	\$0	\$23,729	\$0	\$1,130,000	\$50,000	\$1,203,729
Griswold	\$139,029	\$68,616	\$4,647	\$0	\$235,000	\$137,777	\$585,069
Groton	\$893,759	\$97,328	\$11,204	\$50,000	\$175,000	\$0	\$1,227,291
Guilford	\$0	\$0	\$8,547	\$64,580	\$300,000	\$100,000	\$473,127
Hamden	\$238,336	\$0	\$14,411	\$45,000	\$205,000	\$33,000	\$535,747
Hampton	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,902	\$32,645	\$0	\$34,547
Hartford	\$8,520,000	\$827,286	\$49,514	\$319,661	\$2,190,238	\$0	\$11,906,699
Hartland	\$0	\$0	\$412	\$2,901	\$60,000	\$0	\$63,313
Hebron	\$0	\$0	\$1,726	\$19,904	\$60,000	\$118,681	\$200,311
Highville Charter School	\$596	\$0	\$1,206	\$0	\$70,000	\$0	\$71,802
Integrated Day Charter School	\$99,307	\$9,733	\$923	\$9,392	\$75,000	\$0	\$194,355
Interdistrict School for Arts & Comms	\$105,662	\$22,716	\$732	\$0	\$163,030	\$0	\$292,140
Jumoke Academy	\$55,612	\$60,830	\$1,852	\$12,299	\$170,000	\$0	\$300,593
Kent	\$0	\$0	\$538	\$0	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,538
Killingly	\$687,599	\$24,332	\$6,530	\$57,635	\$125,000	\$5,000	\$906,096
LEARN	\$564,459	\$0	\$6,604	\$45,090	\$703,000	\$132,390	\$1,451,543
Lebanon	\$0	\$0	\$2,599	\$17,820	\$120,000	\$5,000	\$145,419
Ledyard	\$0	\$0	\$6,362	\$0	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$86,362
Lisbon	\$0	\$0	\$1,104	\$0	\$45,000	\$3,300	\$49,404
Litchfield	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000

	Personnel Related Supports				Non-Personnel Related Supports		TOTAL
LEA	Academic	Student Supports	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Total Allocation
Madison	\$0	\$0	\$6,887	\$60,903	\$595,253	\$0	\$663,043
Manchester	\$139,029	\$0	\$16,546	\$100,000	\$600,000	\$0	\$855,575
Mansfield	\$0	\$0	\$2,971	\$10,837	\$85,500	\$0	\$99,308
Marlborough	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,032	\$54,369	\$0	\$63,401
Meriden	\$401,199	\$118,253	\$21,408	\$88,500	\$325,000	\$192,000	\$1,146,360
Middletown	\$29,792	\$121,660	\$12,116	\$81,842	\$1,500,000	\$411,368	\$2,156,778
Milford	\$0	\$0	\$14,741	\$112,519	\$650,000	\$180,000	\$957,260
Monroe	\$0	\$0	\$8,224	\$70,273	\$620,000	\$100,000	\$798,497
Montville	\$129,472	\$5,615	\$5,413	\$28,734	\$250,000	\$106,109	\$525,343
Naugatuck	\$198,613	\$38,931	\$11,466	\$78,444	\$500,000	\$130,000	\$957,454
New Beginnings Family Academy	\$192,364	\$86,182	\$0	\$0	\$61,600	\$0	\$340,146
New Britain	\$1,804,275	\$244,738	\$26,470	\$0	\$1,752,900	\$130,288	\$3,958,671
New Canaan	\$0	\$0	\$11,070	\$0	\$154,646	\$0	\$165,716
New Fairfield	\$0	\$0	\$5,733	\$30,000	\$375,000	\$98,168	\$508,901
New Hartford	\$0	\$0	\$1,146	\$0	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$23,146
New Haven	\$868,600	\$0	\$54,222	\$0	\$3,522,166	\$710,186	\$5,155,174
New London	\$382,000	\$0	\$9,022	\$81,159	\$1,003,330	\$0	\$1,475,511
New Milford	\$0	\$0	\$10,354	\$0	\$179,263	\$0	\$189,617
Newington	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$68,377	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,068,377
Newtown	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$380,841	\$0	\$380,841
Norfolk	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$4,170	\$7,170
North Branford	\$0	\$0	\$4,458	\$31,843	\$130,000	\$0	\$166,301
North Canaan	\$99,307	\$2,433	\$664	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$122,404
North Haven	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$62,885	\$75,000	\$0	\$137,885
North Stonington	\$0	\$0	\$1,959	\$0	\$48,295	\$0	\$50,254
Norwalk	\$3,798,869	\$2,155,633	\$0	\$247,293	\$2,118,308	\$0	\$8,320,103
Norwich Free Academy	\$595,840	\$72,996	\$5,943	\$0	\$500,000	\$0	\$1,174,779
Norwich	\$4,100,000	\$394,178	\$9,410	\$86,335	\$1,600,000	\$10,000	\$6,199,923
Odyssey Community School	\$0	\$9,733	\$863	\$0	\$27,500	\$0	\$38,096
Old Saybrook	\$0	\$0	\$3,134	\$21,477	\$300,200	\$156,140	\$480,951
Orange	\$0	\$0	\$3,242	\$0	\$250,000	\$130,767	\$384,009
Oxford	\$0	\$0	\$4,516	\$25,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$179,516
Park City Prep Charter School	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$85,000	\$0	\$85,000
Plainfield	\$143,001	\$29,198	\$5,717	\$0	\$178,000	\$134,766	\$490,682
Plainville	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$230,000	\$5,000	\$235,000
Plymouth	\$87,390	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$91,150	\$0	\$178,540
Pomfret	\$0	\$0	\$1,010	\$0	\$55,000	\$0	\$56,010
Portland	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
Preston	\$0	\$0	\$1,149	\$8,468	\$67,000	\$66,866	\$143,483
Putnam	\$4	\$0	\$3,082	\$22	\$36,000	\$86,577	\$125,685
Redding	\$0	\$0	\$2,192	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$48,957	\$81,149
Regional School District 1	\$1,017,517	\$34,065	\$949	\$0	\$55,000	\$5,000	\$1,112,531
Regional School District 4	\$0	\$0	\$2,250	\$0	\$42,669	\$148,404	\$193,323
Regional School	\$0	\$0	\$5,730	\$0	\$156,090	\$78,300	\$240,120

	Personnel Related Supports				Non-Personnel Related Supports		TOTAL
LEA	Academic	Student Supports	Cleaning/ PPE/Health /Safety	Transportation	Cleaning/ PPE/Health /Safety	Transportation	Total Allocation
District 5							
Regional School District 6	\$0	\$0	\$2,405	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$52,405
Regional School District 7	\$0	\$0	\$2,717	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,717
Regional School District 8	\$0	\$0	\$3,703	\$0	\$33,782	\$0	\$37,485
Regional School District 9	\$0	\$0	\$2,274	\$3,000	\$48,000	\$49,605	\$102,879
Regional School District 10	\$0	\$0	\$5,880	\$0	\$129,800	\$0	\$135,680
Regional School District 11	\$8,739	\$0	\$543	\$0	\$8,000	\$25,313	\$42,595
Regional School District 12	\$0	\$0	\$1,852	\$0	\$198,479	\$114,481	\$314,812
Regional School District 13	\$0	\$0	\$3,978	\$34,682	\$150,000	\$191,727	\$380,387
Regional School District 14	\$0	\$0	\$4,175	\$27,460	\$129,144	\$61,065	\$221,844
Regional School District 15	\$0	\$0	\$9,643	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$59,643
Regional School District 16	\$0	\$0	\$5,465	\$35,420	\$220,000	\$0	\$260,885
Regional School District 17	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$219,740	\$0	\$219,740
Regional School District 18	\$0	\$0	\$3,383	\$26,358	\$250,000	\$50,000	\$329,741
Regional School District 19	\$0	\$0	\$2,890	\$0	\$371,968	\$30,000	\$404,858
Ridgefield	\$0	\$0	\$12,344	\$97,378	\$0	\$9,000	\$118,722
Rocky Hill	\$0	\$0	\$7,084	\$12,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$219,084
Salem	\$0	\$0	\$1,107	\$7,093	\$167,942	\$0	\$176,142
Salisbury	\$0	\$0	\$745	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,745
Scotland	\$23,039	\$12,166	\$278	\$2,452	\$18,000	\$2,000	\$57,935
Seymour	\$815,801	\$34,065	\$5,715	\$46,258	\$295,000	\$202,945	\$1,399,784
Sharon	\$0	\$0	\$270	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,270
Shelton	\$0	\$0	\$12,258	\$45,000	\$165,000	\$15,000	\$237,258
Sherman	\$0	\$0	\$721	\$6,848	\$30,000	\$2,000	\$39,569
Side By Side Charter School	\$8,342	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$21,000	\$0	\$29,342
Simsbury	\$0	\$0	\$10,729	\$0	\$271,562	\$10,000	\$292,291
Somers	\$0	\$0	\$3,548	\$35,638	\$70,000	\$0	\$109,186
South Windsor	\$0	\$0	\$11,943	\$77,614	\$182,000	\$42,000	\$313,557
Southington	\$0	\$0	\$16,617	\$108,023	\$0	\$421,436	\$546,076

LEA	Personnel Related Supports				Non-Personnel Related Supports		TOTAL
	Academic	Student Supports	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Cleaning/PPE/Health/Safety	Transportation	Total Allocation
Sprague	\$9,931	\$0	\$734	\$5,067	\$20,000	\$16,347	\$52,079
Stafford	\$13,108	\$50,610	\$3,826	\$25,132	\$161,000	\$152,742	\$406,418
Stamford Charter School for Excellence	\$200,202	\$64,236	\$1,036	\$0	\$196,000	\$0	\$461,474
Stamford	\$1,378,376	\$1,046,274	\$43,535	\$284,808	\$1,700,000	\$100,000	\$4,552,993
Sterling	\$107,251	\$38,931	\$957	\$7,441	\$120,000	\$33,863	\$308,443
Stonington	\$0	\$0	\$5,195	\$44,708	\$163,000	\$5,760	\$218,663
Stratford	\$270,432	\$486,639	\$17,996	\$100,000	\$490,000	\$319,443	\$1,684,510
Suffield	\$0	\$0	\$5,578	\$35,000	\$75,000	\$15,000	\$130,578
The Bridge Academy	\$23,834	\$0	\$737	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$24,571
The Gilbert School	\$61,967	\$0	\$1,225	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$63,192
The Woodstock Academy	\$0	\$0	\$2,903	\$19,129	\$150,000	\$45,000	\$217,032
Thomaston	\$0	\$0	\$2,248	\$0	\$352,400	\$0	\$354,648
Thompson	\$216,270	\$13,258	\$2,609	\$17,707	\$0	\$0	\$249,844
Tolland	\$0	\$0	\$6,174	\$61,948	\$0	\$20,800	\$88,922
Torrington	\$79,188	\$0	\$10,115	\$74,051	\$480,844	\$11,910	\$656,108
Trumbull	\$0	\$0	\$17,854	\$126,384	\$1,200,000	\$803,364	\$2,147,602
Unified School District #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unified School District #2	\$0	\$0	\$249	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$249
Union	\$0	\$0	\$121	\$1,485	\$71,200	\$6,208	\$79,014
Vernon	\$47,715	\$10,706	\$8,264	\$0	\$97,000	\$40,000	\$203,685
Voluntown	\$0	\$0	\$692	\$7,081	\$222,000	\$30,701	\$260,474
Wallingford	\$0	\$0	\$14,930	\$0	\$806,985	\$1,885,083	\$2,706,998
Waterbury	\$835,000	\$0	\$49,323	\$342,389	\$2,255,000	\$168,000	\$3,649,712
Waterford	\$0	\$0	\$6,475	\$0	\$301,920	\$65,000	\$373,395
Watertown	\$0	\$0	\$7,144	\$42,000	\$230,000	\$0	\$279,144
West Hartford	\$0	\$0	\$24,920	\$75,000	\$1,100,000	\$0	\$1,199,920
West Haven	\$43,382	\$94,328	\$15,381	\$103,752	\$1,025,000	\$0	\$1,281,843
Westbrook	\$0	\$0	\$1,754	\$4,685	\$684,468	\$5,158	\$696,065
Weston	\$0	\$0	\$6,006	\$134,156	\$306,443	\$0	\$446,605
Westport	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wethersfield	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$69,301	\$95,000	\$50,000	\$214,301
Willington	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$125,000	\$76,330	\$201,330
Wilton	\$0	\$0	\$10,149	\$0	\$122,000	\$0	\$132,149
Winchester	\$11,917	\$29,198	\$1,508	\$9,632	\$100,000	\$0	\$152,255
Windham	\$222,645	\$100,004	\$8,773	\$57,588	\$355,000	\$594,557	\$1,338,567
Windsor Locks	\$59,584	\$41,364	\$4,193	\$0	\$200,000	\$164,587	\$469,728
Windsor	\$238,336	\$48,664	\$8,773	\$58,518	\$200,000	\$201,094	\$755,385
Wolcott	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,979	\$60,000	\$0	\$113,979
Woodbridge	\$0	\$0	\$2,206	\$12,000	\$35,000	\$15,000	\$64,206
Woodstock	\$0	\$0	\$2,161	\$18,537	\$233,276	\$66,878	\$320,852
TOTAL	\$41,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$1,194,367	\$5,600,000	\$59,005,633	\$15,000,000	\$130,800,000

Endnotes

¹ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136

² Ibid.

³ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, § 18001

⁴ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary & Secondary Education. (2020, April 30). Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/states-highest-coronavirus-burden/>.

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⁷ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education. (2020, April 27). *Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) for the FY 2020 Education Stabilization Fund—Reimagining Workforce Preparation (ESF-RWP) Discretionary Grants Program*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/ESF-RWP-Notice-Inviting-Applications.pdf>.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

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¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

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²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

³³ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and Office of Postsecondary Education. (2020, May). *Notice Announcing Availability of Funds and Deadline for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/05/GEER-Notice-of-Funds-Updated-FINAL.pdf>.

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ State of Connecticut, Office of the Governor. (2020, May 14). *Governor Lamont Announces Connecticut Receives \$111 Million in Coronavirus Relief Aid for Schools* [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/05-2020/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Connecticut-Receives-111-Million-in-Coronavirus-Relief-Aid-for-Schools>.

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- ³⁷ DeVos, B. (2020, April 14). *Letter from Secretary of U.S. Department of Education to State Governors Notifying Them of Their Portion of the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund)*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/GEER-Fund-Cover-Letter-to-Governors.pdf>.
- ³⁸ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136
- ³⁹ Ibid.
- ⁴⁰ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and Office of Postsecondary Education. (2020, May). *Notice Announcing Availability of Funds and Deadline for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/05/GEER-Notice-of-Funds-Updated-FINAL.pdf>.
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- ⁴⁴ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136
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- ⁴⁷ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136
- ⁴⁸ U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. (2020, April 23). *Notice Announcing Availability of Funds and Deadline for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/ESSER-Fund-Notice-Final.pdf>.
- ⁴⁹ Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Fiscal Services. (2020). *Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSERF) Under the CARES Act, 2020-2021 ESSERF District Entitlements*. Hartford, CT: Author.
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- ⁵⁴ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136
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