

FY23 BroadbandUSA Federal Funding Site Update

Department: Department of Education

1	Federal Agency/Bureau	Department of Education
2	Program Name	Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)
3	Authorizing Legislation	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act & Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act
4	Program Overview	<p>In 2020, Congress set aside approximately \$3 billion of the \$30.75 billion allotted to the Education Stabilization Fund through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) Fund. The Department awarded these grants to States (Governor's offices) based on a formula stipulated in the legislation: (1) 60% on the basis of the State's relative population of individuals aged 5 through 24. (2) 40% on the basis of the State's relative number of children counted under section 1124(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).</p> <p>The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021, was signed into law on December 27, 2020, and provided an additional \$4,053,060,000 for the GEER Fund. The CRRSA Act provides that \$1,303,060,000 of those funds be used to supplement the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER II Fund) awarded to each State with an approved GEER application under the CARES Act enacted on March 27, 2020.</p>
5	CFDA	84.425C
6	Program Website	https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/governors-emergency-education-relief-fund/
7	Type of funding	<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary <input type="checkbox"/> Subsidy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formula <input type="checkbox"/> Loan or loan guarantee <input type="checkbox"/> Other (i.e. loan-grant combo; if there is a set-aside amount for certain recipients please indicate the amount):
8	Link to application site, NOFO, FOA, or Grants.gov (if different from program website above)	Not Applicable
9	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) or Federal Opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Modification <input type="checkbox"/> Reissue/Renewal

	Announcement (FOA) Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (i.e. one-time funding): One-Time Funding
10	Important Dates (if applicable)	Not Applicable
12	FY2023 Appropriations Amount	Total Amount:\$0 Amount Available Towards Broadband (if specified): Not Specified
13	Matching Requirement	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, what is the matching requirement: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other (i.e. if match is beneficial to an application but not required):
14	Complementary Federal Funding Option	Not Applicable
15	Broadband-related Program Purpose/Eligible Expenditures (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning (e.g., feasibility, data collection, mapping) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Broadband Infrastructure Deployment (e.g., construction, equipment, materials) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Digital Inclusion (e.g. Broadband Adoption, Devices, Public Access, Digital Skills Training, Tech Support) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (e.g. Research and/or Evaluation, Telehealth, etc):
16	Speed/Technical Requirement for Broadband Infrastructure	Construction is authorized under Title VII of the ESEA (Impact Aid) and therefore is an allowable use of GEER and ESSER funds under sections 18002(c)(3) and 18003(d)(1) of the CARES Act, sections 312(c)(3) and 313(d)(1) of the CRRSA Act, and section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act. The broad Impact Aid definition of “construction” includes new construction as well as remodeling, alterations, renovations, and repairs under which many activities related to COVID-19 would likely fall.[1] However, the Department discourages LEAs from using ESSER and GEER funds for new construction because this use of funds may limit an LEA’s ability to support other essential needs or initiatives. Remodeling, renovation, and new construction are often time-consuming, which may not be workable under the shorter timelines associated with ESSER and GEER funds. These types of activities are also subject to a number of additional Federal requirements, as detailed below. While construction is generally allowable, it is the responsibility of a Governor, SEA, LEA, or other subgrantee to assure that individual costs: 1) comply with the Cost Principles in 2 CFR Part 200, subpart E (e.g., the cost must be “necessary and reasonable” (2 CFR §§ 200.403-200.404)); 2) meet the overall purpose of the CARES Act, CRRSA Act, or ARP Act programs, which is “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to” COVID-19; and 3) are consistent with the proper and efficient administration of those programs.
17	Eligible Recipients (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Facilities <input type="checkbox"/> For-Profit Organizations (including Internet Service Providers)

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Government <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> Territorial Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal/Native American Government, Alaska Native Controlled Organizations, and Native Hawaiian Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Utilities/Co-ops <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals/Households <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
18	Criteria for Eligible Recipients	<p>A Governor may provide subgrants to LEAs and IHEs within the State that have been “most significantly impacted by coronavirus” to support their ability to continue providing educational services to their students and to support the “on-going functionality” of these entities. In addition, a Governor may use GEER funds to provide support through a subgrant or a contract to other LEAs, IHEs, and education related entities that the Governor “deems essential” for carrying out emergency educational services, providing childcare and early childhood education, providing social and emotional support, and protecting education-related jobs. An “education-related entity” is a governmental, nonprofit, or for-profit entity within the State that provides services that support preschool, elementary, secondary, or higher education. For examples of such entities, see question A-4 in Frequently Asked Questions about the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund) available at:</p> <p>https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/07/FAQsGEER-Fund.pdf</p>	
19	Grant Beneficiaries (if different from eligible recipients)	Not Applicable	
20	Programmatic Resources	https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/governors-emergency-education-relief-fund/	
21	Reporting Requirements	https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/governors-emergency-education-relief-fund/geer-annual-reporting/	
22	Publicly-available programmatic data	https://covid-relief-data.ed.gov/	
23	Contact information	GEERF@ed.gov	

24	Additional Information	Please carefully review the FAQs for additional guidance on GEER funds: https://oese.ed.gov/files/2022/12/ESSER-and-GEER-Use-of-Funds-FAQs-December-7-2022-Update.pdf
25	Updated	March 2023