



State of Alabama
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)
Local Educational Agency (LEA) Application

In order to receive a CARES Act ESSER Fund allocation, an LEA must submit this application to the SEA.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. LEA Information	
LEA Name	RUSSELLVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Mailing Address	1945 Waterloo Road
Physical Address	1945 Waterloo Road
City/Town and Zip Code	RUSSELLVILLE, AL 35653
Superintendent's Name	HEATH GRIMES
Contact Person	LISA WITT
Contact Person Position	CSFO
Contact Telephone Number	256-331-2004
Contact Email	LISA.WITT@RCS.K12.AL.US

PROGRAMMATIC, FISCAL, AND REPORTING ASSURANCES

The United States Department of Education (USED) has approved the application from the State of Alabama for ESSER funds under the CARES Act. The availability of funds is from 4/29/2020 to 4/29/2021. LEAs will be allowed to expend funds until 9/30/2022. Pre-award costs to the ESSER fund will be allowed for allowable cost incurred on or after March 13, 2020.

2. Allowable Service(s) Assurance

The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies that:
The LEA will use ESSER funds for activities allowable under section 18003(d) of Division B of the CARES Act. The United States Department of Education does not consider the following to be an allowable use of ESSER funds, under any part of 18003: 1) subsidizing or offsetting executive salaries and benefits of individuals who are not employees of the SEA or LEAs or 2) expenditures related to state or local teacher or faculty unions or associations.

How will the LEA determine the most important educational needs as a result of COVID-19?

Due to the shortening of the school year, through analysis of mid-spring testing versus baseline testing of students at the beginning of new school year. Also teacher/administrator surveys of student progress and educational gaps with a focus on reading and mathematics, and language development focusing on our ELL student population. Some of our needs include : transportation, stipends, nurses, and custodians.

How does the LEA intend to assess and address student learning gaps resulting from the disruption in educational services?

Assessment of learning gaps will be determined through ANOVA differences in mid-spring testing and beginning of year testing in August at all grade levels using ALSDE approved testing venues. We will address these learning gaps through summer programs, anticipated to begin summer of 2020 for multiple years, to address students below the adequacy line in reading and math at all grade levels coupled with intensive intervention during the upcoming school year with after school programs.

[illegible]

CODING FOR CARES ESSER APPLICATION
RUSSELLVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
AMENDMENT DATE: 4/28/21

Func	Obj	Prog	TOTAL	Brief Descriptions
1100	010	8110	2,221	Personnel costs/virtual strategies - off contract
1100	101	8110	4,958	Personnel costs/virtual strategies - off contract
1100	220	8110	814	Personnel costs/virtual strategies - off contract
1100	230	8110	437	Personnel costs/virtual strategies - off contract
1100	240	8110	102	Personnel costs/virtual strategies - off contract
1100	333	8110	103,245	Instructional/virtual software
1100	335	8110	73,218	Instructional substitutes
1100	414	8110	2,806	Instructional software
1100	495	8110	29,319	Instructional hardware (i.e. wireless for buses)
2140	121	8210	112,085	Nursing staff expense - RN
2140	131	8210	31,321	Nursing staff expense - LPN
2140	180	8210	210	Nursing subs
2140	210	8210	50,392	Benefits on nurses & nurse subs
2140	220	8210	17,054	Benefits on nurses & nurse subs
2140	230	8210	6,812	Benefits on nurses & nurse subs
2140	240	8210	1,599	Benefits on nurses & nurse subs
2140	479	8210	158,969	PP&E, sanitization supplies & non-cap equip
2190	139	8210	3,039	Tech Asst for process/distribution of chromebooks
2190	230	8210	188	Tech Asst for process/distribution of chromebooks
2190	240	8210	44	Tech Asst for process/distribution of chromebooks
2190	335	8210	37,610	Support subs
2190	339	8210	21,597	Tech Asst for process/distribution of chromebooks-split funded
2190	542	8210	31,429	Instr support equipment to facilitate distancing
2215	192	8220	2,750	Stipends for virtual instr development-off contract
2215	220	8220	339	Stipends for virtual instr development-off contract
2215	230	8220	171	Stipends for virtual instr development-off contract
2215	240	8220	40	Stipends for virtual instr development-off contract
2215	382	8220	500	Staff Prof Development - virtual instruction
3200	171	8320	12,427	Custodial staffing expense-off contract
3200	220	8320	1,272	Custodial staffing expense-off contract
3200	230	8320	670	Custodial staffing expense-off contract
3200	240	8320	136	Custodial staffing expense-off contract
3200	335	8320	15,906	Custodial staffing expense-off contract
3200	441	8320	14,914	Custodial supplies
3200	442	8320	3,565	Sanitization equipment non-capital
3200	499	8320	18,748	Touchless water fountains for schools
3400	341	8340	13,845	Ionization system for HVAC installation
4120	161	8410	90	Transportation personnel exp
4120	180	8410	4,740	Transportation subs
4120	220	8410	10	Transportation subs
4120	230	8410	5	Transportation subs
4120	240	8410	1	Transportation subs

779,598

779,598

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What is the LEA's proposed timeline for providing services and assistance to students and staff?

Timeline for summer and after-school Intervention is scheduled for July 2020 through September 2022.

How will the LEA use ESSER funds to promote remote learning?

Will use ESSR funds for professional development for teachers to use virtual platforms with their students in case of home school environment; will set up wifi/mifi hubs at population centers around our student service area; educational software and hardware platforms that allow education to continue through virtual framework;

3. Equitable Services Assurances

The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:

- The LEA receiving ESSER funds will provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools as required under Section 18005 of Division B of the CARES Act.
- The LEA receiving ESSER funds will provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools located within the LEA in the same manner as provided under Section 1117 of the ESEA, as determined through timely and meaningful consultation with representatives of non-public schools.
- The LEA will ensure that it will maintain control of funds for the services and assistance provided to a non-public school
- The LEA will ensure that it will have title to materials, equipment, and property purchased with ESSER funds.
- The LEA will ensure that services to a non-public school with ESSER funds will be provided by the LEA directly, or through contract with, another public or private entity.

Provide a brief explanation of the following: How will equitable service funds be used by the private schools? How will timely and meaningful consultation occur with private schools? What is the proposed timeline for services and assistance to be implemented by private schools?

There are no private schools in the district of Russellville City Schools; however if private schools do come into existence, or if our students living in our district attend a private school, during this timeframe we will provide equitable services of our wifi/mifi capabilities, hardware & software platforms and technical services to those entities.

OTHER ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS

4. Other Assurances and Certifications

The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:

- The LEA that receives ESSER funds will, to the greatest extent practicable, continue to compensate its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to COVID-19 in compliance with Section 18006 of Division B of the CARES Act. In addition, LEAs that accept funds will continue to pay employees and contractors to the greatest extent practicable based on the unique financial circumstances of the LEA. CARES Act funds generally will not be used for bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenditures, unless related to disruptions or closures resulting from COVID-19.
- The LEA will request technical assistance on the use of ESSER funds for remote learning, which includes both distance education as defined in Section 103(7) of the HEA and distance learning as defined in ESEA Section 8101(14), so that students can continue learning during school closures.
- The LEA will cooperate with any SEA monitoring policies and/or procedures with regards to the allowability of expenditures.
- The LEA will use ESSER funds for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the CARES Act.

The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:

- The LEA will provide to the SEA the methodology used to provide services or assistance to students and staff in both public and non-public schools, the uses of funds and demonstration of their compliance with Section 18003(d), such as any use of funds addressing the digital divide, including securing access to home-based connectivity and remote-use devices, related issues in supporting remote learning for all students, including disadvantaged populations.
- The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such funds by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals for interview and examination, upon request.
- The LEA will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR Parts 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR Part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3485; and the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR Part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3474.

5. Section 442 of the General Education Provisions Act Assurances

The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:

- (a) Each local educational agency which participates in an applicable program under which Federal funds are made available to such agency through a State agency or board shall submit to such agency or board a general application containing the assurances set forth in subsection (b). The application shall cover the participation by that local educational agency in all such programs.
- (b) The general application submitted by a local education agency under subsection (a) shall set forth assurances
- (1) that the local educational agency will administer each program by the application in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications;
 - (2) that the control of funds provided to the local educational agency under each program, and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency and that a public agency will administer those funds and property;
 - (3) that the local educational agency will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, Federal funds paid to that agency under each program;
 - (4) that the local educational agency will make reports to the State agency or board and to the Secretary as may reasonably be necessary to enable the State agency or board and the Secretary to perform their duties and that the local educational agency will maintain such records, including the records required under section 443, and provide access to those records, as the State agency or board or the Secretary deem necessary to perform their duties;
 - (5) that the local educational agency will provide reasonable opportunities for the participation by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals in the planning for and operation of each program;
 - (6) that any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public;
 - (7) that in the case of any project involving construction -
 - (A) the project is not inconsistent with overall State plans for the construction of school facilities, and
 - (B) in developing plans for construction, due consideration will be given to excellence of architecture and design and to compliance with standards prescribed by the Secretary under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in order to ensure that facilities constructed with the use of Federal funds are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities;
 - (8) that the local educational agency has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in each program significant information from educational research, demonstrations, and similar projects, and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices developed through such projects; and
 - (9) that none of the funds expended under any applicable program will be used to acquire equipment (including computer software) in any instance in which such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees or any affiliate of such an organization.
- (c) A general application submitted under this section shall remain in effect for the duration of the program it covers. The State agencies or boards administering the programs covered by the application shall not require the submission or amendment of such application unless required by changes in Federal or State law or by other significant change in the circumstances affecting an assurance in such application.

6. Section 427 of the General Education Provisions Act Assurances

(a) The purpose of this section is to assist the Department in implementing the Department's mission to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the Nation, by -

(1) ensuring equal opportunities to participate for all eligible students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in any project or activity carried out under an applicable program; and

(2) promoting the ability of such students, teachers, and beneficiaries to meet high standards.

(b) The Secretary shall require each applicant for assistance under an applicable program (other than an individual) to develop and describe in such applicant's application the steps such applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in, the project or activity to be conducted with such assistance, by addressing the special needs of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in order to overcome barriers to equitable participation, including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age.

(c) The Secretary may establish criteria and provide technical assistance for meeting the requirements of this section.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter in any way the rights or responsibilities established under the laws cited in section 400(d) of this Act.

What steps does the LEA propose to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede equal access to, or participation in, the program?

The Russellville City Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in its programs and activities, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person(s) have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Dr. Tim Gulnn

To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information and data in this agreement are true and correct. I acknowledge and agree that the failure to comply with all Assurances and Certifications in this agreement, all relevant provisions and requirements of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), or any other applicable law or regulation may result in liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, et seq.; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR Part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3485; and 18 U.S.C. § 1001, as appropriate.

Lisa Witt

LEA Chief School Financial Officer (Typed Name)

Lisa Witt

LEA Chief School Financial Officer Signature

Hephth Grimes

LEA Superintendent (Typed Name)

[Signature]

LEA Superintendent Signature

256-331-2004

Telephone Number

4/28/21

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

256-331-2001

Telephone Number

5/2/21

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Send completed application to CARESapp@alsde.edu.

Upon approval of the application, funds will be released to the LEA.

ALSDE Internal Use Only

Date Application Received: 4/29/2021

Date ALSDE Approved: 5/14/2021

[Signature]

State Superintendent and/or Designee Signature

05/14/2021

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Date CARES Act ESSER Funds Released: _____