



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 | Calhoun County Schools |
| Mailing Address | PO Box 2084 Anniston, AL 36202 |
| Physical Address | 4400 McClellan Blvd. |
| City/Town and Zip Code | Anniston, AL 36206 |
| Superintendent's Name | Donald A. Turner, Jr. |
| Contact Person | Summer Davis |
| Contact Person Position | Deputy Superintendent |
| Contact Telephone Number | (256) 741-7457 |
| Contact Email | sdavis@cchoe.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?

Calhoun County schools conducted a needs assessment through staff meetings and surveys to stakeholder groups. Areas of focus include academic, technology, safe and healthy, mental health, and school operations. Technology needs include tools, devices, resources, staff, and professional development to complete virtual learning and digital tools to monitor and assess student progress. Sanitation and health needs include supplies to sufficiently sanitize buses, classrooms, and offices on all LEA campuses; as well as, materials needed to encourage social distancing among staff and students. Sanitation materials will include supplies for staff members for example masks, face shields, gloves, and other personal protective equipment. Mental health services include resources and partnerships to provide counseling and services to support students and staff members that might be negatively impacted due to Covid-19. School operational needs refer to instances that may arise that effect the day to day operational activities impacted by the effects of Covid-19 of all school campuses. Professional development will be provided to train teachers and staff on remote learning, social and emotional supports, and sanitation practices that reduce the spread of infectious diseases.

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

At the beginning of the school year, the LEA will conduct a screening for all students. In K-3, students will be assessed using STAR reading and math. In 4th-11th grade, students will take the Scantron Performance Series Express in math and reading to determine levels of mastery of standards and to identify educational gaps that might have occurred due to a disruption in educational services. Teachers will use ACT scores obtained in 11th grade to review progress, remediation, and enrichment opportunities for 12th grade students. Supports will be in place to provide remediation for students with academic gaps. The district will use digital platforms for formative practice and assessment. For K-8th grade, students will use Freckle Math, Reading, Science, and Social Studies. In grades 9-12th, students will use iXL for practice and remediation of skills. Students pursuing a diploma on the Alternate Achievement Standards pathway will be instructed using a cross curricular program for instruction. Now2You and Unique Learning Systems are programs that will be utilized to meet requirements of instruction using the AAS Standards. These programs can be used in traditional school settings as well as in virtual programs for remote learning at home. Students will also attend supplemental after school and summer learning programs to address learning loss and complete credit recovery. Supplemental after school and summer learning programs are available to all students who show a deficit in skills or need credit recovery. The school system will hire retired certified teachers to incorporate reading intervention for students impacted by learning loss as authorized under ESSA.

ESSER 1 CARES 4290

| Amendment | | | | Brief Description of Expenditure |
|-----------|---------|---------|------------|--|
| Function | Object | Program | 3 | |
| 1100 | 010-250 | 1200 | 77,604.00 | FY21 virtual only elementary teacher (010 \$56,879, 210-250 \$20,725) |
| 1100 | 414 | 2900 | 1,341.00 | software for online virtual learning for SpEd needs |
| 9130 | 199-250 | 4300 | 19,565.00 | after school/summer tutoring - high (199 \$16,296, 220-250 \$3,269) |
| 9130 | 199-250 | 4600 | 27,950.00 | after school/summer tutoring - elem (199 \$23,280, 220-250 \$4,670) |
| 4190 | 199-250 | 4600 | 8,407.00 | bus driver salaries for tutoring (199 \$7,000, 220-250 \$1,407) |
| 4190 | 391 | 4600 | 5,000.00 | bus mileage for tutoring |
| 1100 | 099-250 | 8110 | 193,362.00 | off contract virtual teacher stipends, retired teacher virtual assistance (010-199 \$166,739, 220-250 \$26,623) |
| 1100 | 331 | 8110 | 19,310.00 | WiFi for student home use |
| 1100 | 400-499 | 8110 | 579,457.00 | supplies/software/equipment for virtual learning/learning loss |
| 2140 | 489 | 8210 | 2,076.00 | nurse supplies |
| 2150 | 482 | 8210 | 19,407.00 | mental health supports |
| 2190 | 400-499 | 8210 | 62,045.00 | supplies to prevent spread of Covid |
| 2310 | 099-250 | 8230 | 8,344.00 | retired administrators for covering schools when both admin are out due to Covid/Quarantine (099-199 \$7,750, 230-250 \$594) |
| 3200 | 347 | 8320 | 24,865.00 | building sanitation services |
| 3200 | 400-499 | 8320 | 614,188.00 | supplies & equipment for sanitizing buildings |
| 3200 | 500-599 | 8320 | 24,367.00 | floor scrubbers for sanitizing buildings |
| 4120 | 479 | 8410 | 12,427.00 | sanitizing supplies for buses |
| 4210 | 495 | 8420 | 10,965.00 | laptops for delivering lunches to classrooms, returned to classrooms for instructional purposes |

1,710,680.00

1,710,680.00

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

Needs assessments conducted in June- 2020

Purchases to support virtual, traditional, and blended learning begin- July 2020- on-going.

Professional development for virtual and blended learning, re-opening of school, safe and healthy schools, as well as sanitation processes for Covid-19 - July 2020- on-going.

Sanitation and social distancing supplies for transportation, schools, and maintenance- July 2020- ongoing

Monitoring of daily operations and continuity of services- July 2020 - ongoing

All funds will be expended by September 30, 2022.

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

ESSER funds will be used to allow the district to go one-to-one by purchasing chromebooks for all students 6th- 12th grade. Students who choose a fully remote option in grades K-4th grade will also be able to check out a device for virtual learning. The district will purchase bags for chromebooks and other tools that aide in remote learning such as headphones for students use. The LEA will continue to evaluate the need and increase wifi capabilities with the purchasing of hot spots, providing wifi for buses, hot spots for home use for students with special needs, and to increase infrastructure to support a one- to- one initiative and remote learning options as needed. The district will purchase software and devices to aide in virtual instruction through video recorded lessons, Zoom licensing, and digital learning software that will allow for formative assessments and practicing of standards for remediation and retention of skills. APEX seats will provide a digital learning curriculum for 6th- 12th grade students. The LEA will purchase electronic signature software to communicate and provide no contact signatures with all stakeholders. Professional development will be provided for teachers and staff to ensure effective instruction for students during remote or blended learning. Professional development costs may include registration, staff services, training supplies, travel costs, and substitute teacher expenditures associated with the applicable professional development. The LEA may use ESSER funds for the hiring of certified teachers who may be retired or contracted certified teachers to provide instruction as a virtual/ remote learning teacher and/or tutor.

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?

Currently, no private schools reside within our school district.

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.

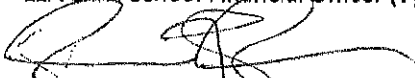
What steps does the LEA propose to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede equal access to, or participation in, the program?

The LEA is implementing a one-to-one initiative for all students in grades 5-12. The district is using all methods of communication to reach the families of our school district including social media, automated phone calls, emails, text, and posting plans to provide options of learning for all students. Full time remote learning is offered to all students in K-12th grade. Students eligible to receive special education services will continue to receive services. A review of the IEP will be completed based on the parents selection of traditional or remote learning and decisions made about the appropriate supports and services, and related services based on that decision and the IEP amended if necessary. Students receiving special services through 504, IDEA, EL, homeless, and foster care students may be issued a device for remote or blended learning as well as a hot spot if the need exist. Wifi capabilities are being assessed in all communities and increased at schools to reach school parking lots. The LEA may provide wifi on buses that could be located in areas where barriers to Internet access may occur. Students pursuing a diploma on the Alternate Achievement Standards pathway will be instructed using a cross curricular program for instruction. News2You and Unique Learning Systems are programs that will be utilized to meet requirements of instruction using the AAS Standards. These programs can be used in traditional school settings as well as in virtual programs for remote learning at home.

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.

John Godwin

LEA Chief School Financial Officer (Typed Name)



LEA Chief School Financial Officer Signature

Donald A. Turner, Jr.

LEA Superintendent (Typed Name)



LEA Superintendent Signature

(256) 741-7443

Telephone Number

03-01-2022

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

(256) 741-7401

Telephone Number

3/2/22

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: 2/25/2022

Date ALSDE Approved: 3/9/2022

State Superintendent and/or Designee Signature

3/9/22

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Date CARES Act ESSER Funds Released: