



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D. *KBS*
DATE: October 26, 2020
SUBJECT: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Update

PURPOSE:

To present a general overview of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act as it pertains to the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and Local School Systems with the State Board as an informational item.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On March 27, 2020 the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law. The CARES Act includes several different funding programs that fiscally impact Local School Systems. The programs highlighted in this presentation that provide support to Local School Systems are the Education Stabilization Fund, and the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

ACTION:

No action. This is an informational item only.

ATTACHMENT:

PowerPoint Presentation.

Update of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding for Local School Systems



State Board Meeting
October 26, 2020

Background

- **On March 27th, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law.**
 - **\$2.2 trillion dollar economic stimulus bill in response to the economic fallout as a result of the Coronavirus.**
 - **Education Stabilization Fund distributed \$30.75 billion nationally, through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funds.**
 - **Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) distributed \$150 billion nationally to states and local governments.**
- **\$400 million allocated to local school systems in Maryland through the ESSER, GEER, and CRF.**

Overview of CARES Act Grant Programs for Local School Systems

CARES Act Funding	Total Awarded	Allocation	Purpose
Coronavirus Relief Fund – Tutoring	\$100,000,000	Based on FY 2019 Title I allocations.	To support tutoring and other supplemental services to compensate for the learning loss associated with time away from direct instruction as a result of the COVID-19 school closures.
Coronavirus Relief Fund – Technology	\$100,000,000	Share of Statewide enrollment	To support technology needs associated with virtual learning necessary as a result of the COVID-19 school closures.
Coronavirus Relief Fund - Connectivity	\$10,000,000	Competitive	Managed by Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Office of Rural Broadband Broadband connectivity for unserved students.
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund – Formula	\$187,050,652	Based on FY 2019 Title I allocations.	To address the impact of COVID-19 on elementary and secondary schools. Local School Systems may use funds for any purposes listed in section 18003(d) of the CARES Act.
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund – State Set-aside – Reopening	\$10,000,000	Base Amount, plus per pupil	To support costs associated with bringing students back for in-person learning by the start of the second quarter of the 2020-21 school year. Eligible grantees receive a base amount of \$200,000 as well as a per-student allocation.
Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund – Innovative Grant	\$10,000,000	Competitive	To support the costs associated with a unique or innovative approach to engage students, teachers and school communities that address academic accessibility as a result of the COVID-19. Priority provided to projects that address at-risk students.
Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund – Technology	\$10,000,000	Share of Statewide enrollment weighted for at risk population	To support investments in technology infrastructure and professional development to improve capacity to provide high quality, accessible distance education or remote learning. Any of the purposes listed in section 18003(d) of the CARES Act are allowable.
These funds support statewide education.			
Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund – Broadband	\$15,000,000		Managed by DHCD Office of Rural Broadband Development of a statewide wireless long term evolution network for educational purposes.

Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF)

The Governor allocated \$210 Million to Local School Systems.

- \$100 Million Tutoring Grant – to support tutoring and other supplemental services to compensate for the learning loss associated with time away from direct instruction as a result of the COVID-19 school closures.
- \$100 Million Technology Grant – to support technology needs associated with virtual learning necessary as a result of the COVID-19 school closures.
- \$10 Million Connectivity Grant - managed by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Office of Rural Broadband. Broadband connectivity for unserved students.

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund is a program within the Education Stabilization Fund.

- Maryland State Department of Education was awarded \$207 Million
 - \$20 Million for State Set Aside
 - \$187 Million for Local School Systems
- \$187 Million was awarded to Local School Systems (LSS) to address the impact of COVID-19 on elementary and secondary schools. LSS may use funds for any purposes listed in section 18003(d) of the CARES Act.
- \$10 Million of the State Set Aside was allocated for a Reopening Grant Program to support costs associated with bringing students back for in-person learning by the start of the second quarter of the 2020-21 school year.

Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

The Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund is a program within the Education Stabilization Fund.

- \$10 Million Innovative Grant Program to support the costs associated with a unique or innovative approach to engage students, teachers and school communities that address academic accessibility as a result of the COVID-19. Priority provided to projects that address at-risk students.
- \$10 Million Technology Grant Program to support investments in technology infrastructure and professional development to improve capacity to provide high quality, accessible distance education or remote learning. Any of the purposes listed in section 18003(d) of the CARES Act are allowable.
- \$15 Million Broadband Initiative managed by Department of Housing and Community Development, Office of Rural Broadband Development of a statewide wireless long term evolution network for educational purposes.

Summary of Awarded Federal Relief Funds

