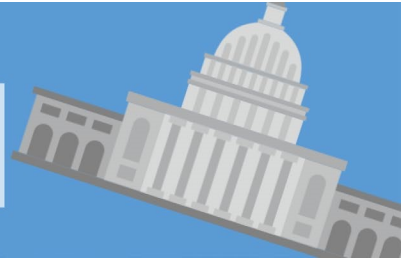


# CARES Act Funding



The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, signed into law by President Donald Trump on March 27, provides funding and flexibilities for states to respond to the COVID-19 emergency in K-12 schools.

The bill includes an Education Stabilization Fund, which provides \$13.5 billion in K-12 formula grants to states. This grant is distributed to states based on their share of ESEA Title I-A funds. State education agencies will then distribute at least 90% of funds to school districts and public charter schools based on their share of Title I-A funds. State agencies may choose to use a portion or all of the remaining K-12 funds to respond to emergency needs as determined by the state agency.

Funds to local districts can be used for coronavirus-response activities, such as planning for and coordinating during long-term school closures, purchasing educational technology to support online learning for all students, and additional activities authorized by federal elementary and secondary education laws.

Each state will receive a share of the \$3 billion Governor's Education Relief Fund, which governors can use at their discretion to provide emergency support grants to K-12 schools, colleges and universities and child care/early education providers.

School districts are allowed to utilize funds for a wide-variety of Covid-19 related costs and to support long-term plans to reopen schools:

- **School Meals:** Offset costs due to serving school meals (not covered through USDA reimbursements). Cover additional personnel ('hazard pay', hours, etc.) or logistical costs (transportation, etc.).
- **Distance/Remote Learning:** Cover costs of devices, connectivity (hot spots, wireless, internet service, etc.), printing/preparing learning packets, instructional resources/tools, and other technology costs (hardware, software, assistive technology, outfitting buildings/buses with WiFi, online learning platforms, subscriptions, etc.).
- **Facilities/Equipment:** Cover costs of sanitizing/disinfecting buildings, additional personnel costs ('hazard pay', hours, etc.), and equipment (gloves, masks, PPE, cleaning supplies, etc.).
- **Mental and Physical Health:** Cover the costs of counseling, telehealth, school nursing, therapeutic services, and wraparound services and supports (contracted hours, professional learning, programs, etc.). •

- **Supplemental Learning:** Cover costs of extended learning, remediation, and/or enrichment opportunities for students (summer learning, afterschool programs, additional pay for teachers and staff, extended schedules, etc.).
- **Professional Development:** Cover costs of additional professional development for school leaders, teachers, and staff (trainings, extended professional development days, consultants, programs, etc.).
- **At-risk Student Populations:** Cover costs of specific activities, services, supports, programs, and/or targeted interventions directly addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, English Learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.
- **Continuity of Core Staff and Services:** Restore any potential LEA FY21 budget reductions due to decreased state and/or local revenue. Cover costs of offsetting the need to furlough or reduce the salaries of any state or locally funded, school-based staff and/or continue core operations (transportation, utility, and other operating costs).