

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act  
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund  
Uses of Funds

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law on March 27, 2020. CARES Act funds (under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) may be used to support school divisions in a wide variety of ways. The allowable uses of funds below are specified in Section 18003(d) of the CARES Act.

- Activities authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins), and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act;
- Coordination of LEA preparedness and response efforts to improve coordinated responses with other agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus;
- Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address school needs;
- Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth;
- Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve LEA preparedness and response efforts;
- Training and professional development for LEA staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;
- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean LEA facilities;
- Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including how to provide meals, technology for online learning, guidance on IDEA requirements, and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all applicable requirements;
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students served by the LEA that aids in regular and substantive educational interactions between students and their classroom teachers, including assistive technology or adaptive equipment;
- Providing mental health services and supports;
- Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care; and
- Other activities that are necessary to maintain operations and continuity of services and continuing to employ existing staff.