

October 20, 2021

COVID Relief Funds Update



Missouri Association of Rural Education



- Review of Existing Grants
- ARP ESSER (ESSER III) Update
- General Guidance & Financial Reminders
- New Grants & State Efforts
- Child Tax Credit
- Q & A

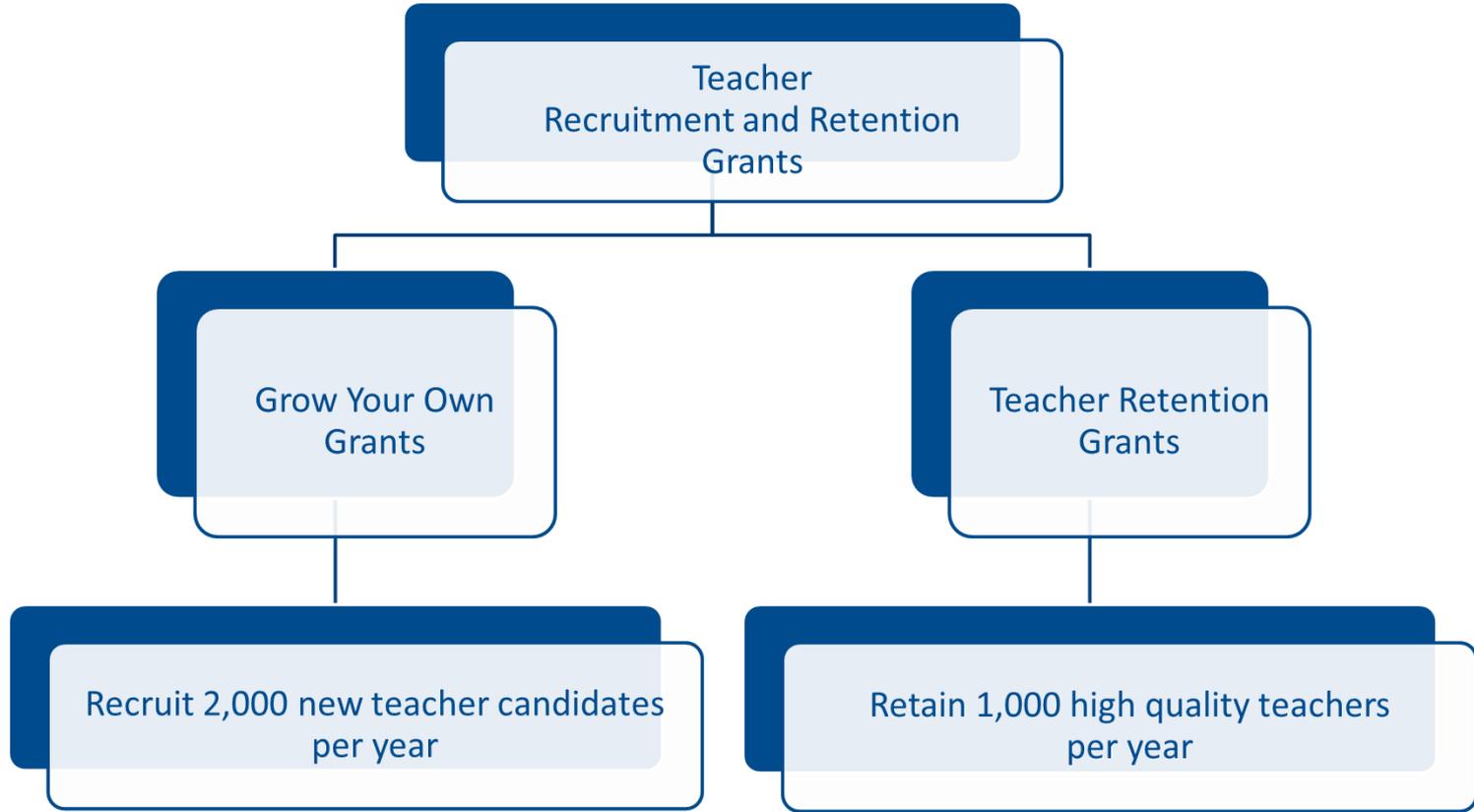
COVID Relief Funds Update

Grant Program	Funds Allocated	Grant Purposes	Current Status
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)	\$192,131,014	COVID Response	\$182,231,124 Distributed
Missouri Student Connectivity - Connections (ESSER & GEER)	\$20,399,380	Student Devices	\$15,273,686 Distributed
Transportation Supplement (GEER)	\$15,258,661	Extra Transportation Costs	\$8,655,755 Distributed
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief II (ESSER II)	\$784,055,062	COVID Response	\$276,463,417 Distributed
Governor's Emergency Education Relief II (GEER II)	\$12,145,405	CTE Programs	Grant Programs Released Aug. 31
Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS)	\$67,550,224	Non-public school assistance	\$17,458,691 Distributed
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER III)	\$1,957,916,288	COVID Response	LEA Applications Under Review Awaiting Appropriation
Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools II (EANS II)	\$68,641,868	Non-public school assistance	State Application Submitted Sept. 9 Awaiting Appropriation



- TEACHERS – the single most influential component of an effective school and improving student learning
- \$50 million investment in the Missouri teacher workforce
- Recruitment Grants
 - Grow Your Own programs in every district
- Retention Grants
 - Research-based activities that lead to higher retention
- Contact RPDC for guidance and support

Investing in the Teacher Workforce





- Allocations for qualified LEAs
 - ❑ Wi-Fi enabled devices for students
 - ❑ Application and information available
 - ❑ ePeGS (budget, payment request, FER)
- Extended deadline for obligation September 30, 2022
- Equitable services (any allowable use) required
- *Access Project no longer open*



- Allocations based on FY20 transportation formula
 - ❑ Processed in ePeGS (Budget, Payment Request, FER)
 - ❑ Application and information available
 - ❑ GEER funds
- Equitable services (any allowable use) required
- Obligation: July 1, 2020 - *September 30, 2022 (extended)*
- Extraordinary costs – including summer school
- Do not claim these miles/costs under the transportation formula

ARP ESSER (ESSER III) Requirements

Timeline



Date	Action
May 24, 2021	LEA allocations posted by DESE
June 23, 2021	LEAs must post Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plans
July 23, 2021	DESE opened ARP ESSER (ESSER III) application (projected)
August 23, 2021	ARP ESSER (ESSER III) applications deadline
Implementation period (Plan and Budget revisions as necessary)	
April 30, 2024	Budget revisions due
September 30, 2024	Payment requests due
October 31, 2024	Final Expenditure Report due



- Posted on the web by June 23, 2021
- Address every mitigation strategy
 - ❑ Masks
 - ❑ Physical distancing
 - ❑ Hand and respiratory hygiene
 - ❑ Cleaning and maintenance
 - ❑ Diagnostic and screening testing
 - ❑ Contact tracing
 - ❑ Vaccinations
 - ❑ Reasonable accommodations for with disabilities
- Communicate how the district/charter will provide for students' academic and staff and students social, emotional, and mental health needs
- Review (including consultation) at least every six months



- Lost Instructional Time – 20% minimum
 - ❑ Academics
 - ❑ Social, Emotional, Mental Health Needs
 - ❑ Interventions must be evidence-based
- Remaining Funds – up to 80%
 - ❑ See [ARP Guidance](#)



- Reviews under way
- Order of review
 - ❑ Construction
 - ❑ Other capital outlay
 - ❑ Date of submission
- Approved applications posted on the DESE dashboard



- DESE awaiting spending authority
- Allowable period of use
 - ❑ March 13, 2020 through Sept. 30, 2023*
- Capital projects require prior DESE approval
- Maintenance of Equity Requirements
 - ❑ Per pupil funding
 - ❑ Student:Staff ratios

*Tydings amendment will extend deadline through Sept. 30, 2024



- Construction Requirements
 - ❑ Davis-Bacon Act: <https://sam.gov/content/wage-determinations>
 - ❑ Environmental Impact (applies to building projects)
 - ❑ National Register of Historic Places
 - ❑ Ownership/Title/Boundaries
 - ❑ Operating Expenses After Construction
 - ❑ Insurance

A large green arrow pointing to the right, with a white border on its left side. The text "General Guidance & Finance Reminders" is centered within the arrow.

General Guidance & Finance Reminders



- Will the proposed use of funds be related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19?
- Is it an allowable use of funds under CARES/CRRSA/ARP?
- Is it reasonable and necessary?
- Does it support a safe return to school?



- Recommend documenting how a specific use of funds was COVID-related
- Maintain detailed financial records for each grant for audit and fiscal monitoring purposes
- Follow board policy and federal guidance documents regarding procurement related to federal grants



- Pay careful attention to coding
- Each guidance document contains proper program codes
- Missouri School Accounting Manual updated regularly
- Critical for accurate ASBR submission
- More information on 10/22/2021 Webinar



New Grants & State Efforts



Parent Reimbursement (\$6,072,703)

- To all public high schools
- Parent expenses for CTE credit
- See guidance for allowable use and funds availability



CTE Equipment and Expansion (\$5,931,624)

- Increase capacity for high-demand occupations
- Competitive grant
- All area career centers were eligible
- See [guidance](#) for more details
- Grant awards to be announced Nov. 1, 2021

Postsecondary Advising Access



- Ensure postsecondary success
- Launched 10/12/2021
- 3 year program
- Trained postsecondary advisors
- Applications due November 3, 2021

State Support	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
35 Pilot Schools	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$15,000
100 Schools		\$45,000	\$30,000



- ARP – HCY: \$12,822,529
 - ❑ Competitive grants: \$3,195,247
 - ❑ Allocations to all schools: \$9,618,451
- If allocation <\$5,000, must join consortium to receive
- Allocations will be posted on [COVID Relief Page](#)
- State activities
 - ❑ Training and technical assistance
 - ❑ Technology-based identification assistance
- Awaiting appropriation and spending authority



- New data warehouse
- Compliance with
 - ❑ Ed-Fi Technology
 - ❑ Common Education Data Standards
 - ❑ School Codes for the Exchange of Data
- Self-service portal and visualizations



- Proposed investment in broadband infrastructure
- Mirror National Telecommunications and Information Administration Grants
- Awaiting approval from USED



- Assessment system redesign
 - ❑ Full alignment to priority standards by 2024
 - ❑ Foundations of reading assessment
- Grants for high-quality instructional resources in reading and mathematics
 - ❑ Under development



- Targeted summer school grants
- Expanded afterschool grant program



- Procuring a standardized tool for SEL, including resources
- Exploring ways of providing greater access to mental health supports for educators and students



Child Tax Credit



- Estimated 4,000,000 children not benefiting because parents don't file taxes*
- \$250 - \$300 per child per month
- Fully refundable
- Direct filing at getctc.org



- What do families need?
 - ❑ Reliable address
 - ❑ Email address
 - ❑ Children's Social Security Numbers
 - ❑ Parent Social Security Number (or ITIN)
 - ❑ Bank information (if direct deposit desired)

Questions

