



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

DATE: May 1, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund
Division Allocations**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund allocations for each school division are attached (Attachment B). The allocations are based on each school division's relative share of Title I, Part A, Federal Fiscal Year 2019 funds. Adjustments were made by the Virginia Department of Education to account for the state-level set-aside. Attachment A contains the Additional Required Special Terms and Conditions for Grant Awards or Cooperative Agreements. The terms of the grant award are provided in Attachment C.

CARES Act ESSER funds are emergency relief funds intended to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools in Virginia. A list of allowable uses of funds as specified in the CARES Act is provided in Attachment D. As school divisions determine how best to use their funds, the Virginia Department of Education recommends that consideration be given to the priorities below:

- Supporting remote learning through educational technology, including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment;
- Supporting the diverse needs of all students during school closure and when students return to school, which may include mental health services and supports, provisions for meal distribution, and services allowable under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;
- Planning for and implementing extended learning and summer learning; and
- Maintaining operations and continuity of services, including continuing to employ existing staff to the greatest extent practicable.

The CARES Act ESSER Fund application and instructions will be provided to school divisions in the near future. Applications will be due on August 1, 2020. The period of performance for the

award is March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2022. Questions about the allocations or application process should be directed to ESSA@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/lis

Attachment

- a. [Additional Required Special Terms and Conditions for Grant Awards or Cooperative Agreements](#) (Word)
- b. [CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Division Allocations](#) (XLS)
- c. [CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Terms of Grant Award](#) (Word)
- d. [CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Allowable Uses of Funds](#) (Word)