**South Dakota Department of Education**

**GEER APPLICATION: EDUCATION COOPERATIVES PROVIDING BIRTH TO FIVE SERVICES**

**Released:** March 16, 2021

**Due:** April 16, 2021

Email applications to [cody.stoeser@state.sd.us](mailto:cody.stoeser@state.sd.us) by application due date.

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# Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) Overview

GEER funds are awarded to governors who have discretion over how to distribute them.

Governors may use these funds to:

* Provide emergency support grants to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) most significantly impacted by coronavirus (as determined by the State Education Agency (SEA)) so they can continue to provide educational services and support ongoing functionality,
* Provide emergency support grants to Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) serving students that have been most significantly impacted by coronavirus (as determined by the governor) so they can continue to provide educational services and support ongoing functionality, and
* Provide support to any other LEA, IHE, or other educational entity the governor deems

essential for carrying out emergency educational services to students for the following

activities:

* + Allowable ESEA activities,
  + Activities under the Higher Education Act,
  + The provision of childcare and early childhood education,
  + Social and emotional support, and
  + The protection of education-related jobs.

GEER funds under this application will be available for obligation by the sub-recipient through Sept. 30, 2022, and will be available for pre-award costs back to March 13, 2020.

# Submission Timeline

The GEER funds are a one-time grant award. The funds being granted to education cooperatives must be spent on allowable activities targeting children ages birth to 5. Applications (one per cooperative) are due on or before April 16, 2021. The Department of Education shall award funds prior to May 28, 2021 via a grant agreement. Incomplete or duplicate applications will not be considered.

A .pdf copy of the complete and signed application must be emailed to [cody.stoeser@state.sd.us](mailto:cody.stoeser@state.sd.us) on or before the April 16, 2021. Applications that do not comply with deadline requirements will not be considered.

# Education Cooperative and Contact Information

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Organization:** |  | |
| **Mailing Address:** |  | |
| **City, State, Zip Code:** |  | |
|  | |  |
| **Title of Contact Person:** | | **Email Address:** |
|  | |  |
| **Printed Name of Contact Person** | | **Telephone:** |

# Allowable Uses of Funds

GEER funds must be used for purposes related to the allowable uses of the funds related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19.

An education cooperative applying for funds under this application for providing birth to five services can use awarded funds for the following:

1. Allowable Activities:
   * Any activity authorized by ESEA, IDEA, AEFLA, Perkins, or McKinney Vento,
   * Coordination of preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19,
   * Providing principals and other school leaders with resources to address individual school needs,
   * Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including outreach and service delivery,
   * Procedures and systems to improve LEA preparedness and response efforts,
   * Supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities
   * Training and professional development for LEA staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious disease,
   * 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 for carrying out IDEA requirements, and providing educational services consistent with applicable requirements,
   * Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software and connectivity) for the LEA’s students,
   * Providing mental health services and supports,
   * Planning and implementing summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, and
   * Other activities necessary to maintain LEA operations and services and employ existing LEA staff
2. The provision of childcare and early childhood education,
3. Social and emotional support, and
4. The protection of education-related jobs.

Reimbursement for the expenses of any services or assistance described above that an education cooperative incurred on or after March 13, 2020, except for:

* Bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenditures, unless related to disruptions or closures related to COVID-19
* Subsidizing or offsetting executive salaries and benefits of individuals who are not LEA employees
* Expenditures related to state or local teacher unions of faculty unions or associations, or
* Expenses reimbursed through the Cares Act Relief Fund Grant and the PPP Loan Program.

**Table 1: Requests for Reimbursement of Previous Expenses**

Applicants should list all prior expenses incurred on or after March 13, 2020 that are eligible for reimbursement in accordance with the above list. Applicants will have to be able to provide sufficient documentation, such as paid invoices or receipts, supporting such expenditures.

For the Category of Activity column, indicate the letter from the above list which the expense falls under. Example: If you are asking for reimbursement of an invoice for hand sanitizer, type in an “a” as hand sanitizer would fall under the Supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities category.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category of Activity** | **Description** | **Expense Amount** |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
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| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
|  | **TOTAL** |  |

**Table 2: Requests for Future Allowable Activities**

Applicants should list all proposed obligations before Sept. 30, 2022 that are eligible for reimbursement in accordance with the above list. Applicants will have to be able to provide sufficient documentation when expenses are incurred, such as invoices or receipts, supporting such expenditures.

For the Category of Activity column, indicate the letter from the above list which the expense falls under. Example: If you are asking for reimbursement of an invoice for hand sanitizer, type in an “a” as hand sanitizer would fall under the Supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities category.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category of Activity** | **Description** | **Expense Amount** |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
| Choose an item. |  |  |
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| Choose an item. |  |  |
|  | **TOTAL** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief, all of the information in this application is true and correct. I further understand that knowingly making a false statement or misrepresentation on this application may subject me to criminal or civil penalties under applicable State and Federal laws.* | |
|  |  |
| **Title of Authorized Representative:** | **Email Address:** |
|  |  |
| **Authorized Representative of the Education Cooperative (Typed Name**): | **Telephone:** |
|  |  |
| **Signature of Authorized Representative of the Education Cooperative:** | **Date:** |