

## Administrative Memo

**Date:** November 30, 2020  
**To:** School Administrators  
**From:** Chris Neale, assistant commissioner, Office of Quality Schools  
**Subject:** QS-20-014 – Recalculation of ESSER and GEER Grant Allocations

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has recalculated the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund and Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund grant allocations for local education agencies (LEAs) and the equitable service amounts for participating nonpublic schools. The recalculation was performed for two reasons. First, as with all allocation amounts under the Every Student Succeeds Act, amounts were recalculated to account for charter school expansion. Second, the Interim Final Rule, which guided DESE’s initial decision on the method to calculate nonpublic equitable shares, was vacated by a federal court on September 4, 2020.

Previous allocations and equitable shares provided LEAs and nonpublic schools with an amount based on enrollment versus an amount based on economic deprivation. DESE used ESSER state reserve funds to then supplement the ESSER allocations for LEAs that received less funding under the enrollment method as compared to the economic deprivation method. Under the recalculation, DESE provided additional funding to ensure that each LEA received the better of either the enrollment or the economic deprivation methods. Further, equitable shares were recalculated in the same manner. DESE neither reduced funding for LEAs nor reduced equitable share amounts. Any increased cost of the recalculation was funded through additional ESSER state reserve funds. This recalculation approach was applied to all grants funded by ESSER or GEER.

LEAs and nonpublic schools are encouraged to review the newly posted allocations and equitable share amounts [here](#). LEAs must ensure that all nonpublic schools within their borders receive consultation. LEAs that have previously submitted an Affirmation of Consultation do not need to engage in additional consultation with those nonpublic schools. If a nonpublic school has an allocation but has not been consulted with, the Affirmation of Consultation must be submitted before funds will be distributed. As a reminder, the provision of services will take place through the LEA to the nonpublic schools within their borders.

Please contact Amber Riley at 573-526-9945 or [Amber.Riley@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Amber.Riley@dese.mo.gov) with additional questions.