

Emergency Worker Childcare Grant Guidance

August 21, 2020



<https://dese.mo.gov/cares-act>

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Introduction

During the spring of 2020, COVID-19 resulted in the closure of many childcare facilities throughout Missouri. The Governor's Office and Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) identified schools that could provide childcare services for children of health care professionals and first responders. These important public servants have been, and continue to be, critical front-line employees during the pandemic.

The Emergency Worker Childcare Grant provides reimbursement for direct expenses for the schools that provided these childcare services. This grant program is funded through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Child Care and Development Fund as allocated by the Office of the Governor.

Emergency Worker Childcare Grant

The purpose of the Emergency Worker Childcare Grant of \$795,543 is to reimburse costs related to childcare provided to qualified emergency workers as a result of COVID-19-related school closures.

- Reimbursements may be prorated, as needed, based on total expenses reported statewide for childcare provided to qualified workers.
- Qualified emergency workers include health care professionals and first responders.
- Allowable expenses incurred from March 13, 2020 through the end of the regular year academic calendar may include the following for childcare costs related to COVID-19:
 - Salary and benefits for childcare staff; or
 - Supplies used within the program.
- Reimbursement must be claimed by September 15, 2020.
- Funding source: CARES Act Child Care and Development Fund
 - Equitable Services does not apply to this Emergency Worker Childcare Grant.
 - Cash Management Improvement Act applies to this project.

Application Process for LEAs

To receive funds under the Emergency Worker Childcare Grant, LEAs must complete the Application and Assurance for Funds Received under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act – Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds for the 2019-20 school year in Tiered Monitoring. Previously completed Assurances for ESSER funds apply to the Emergency Worker Childcare Grant and do not need to be duplicated.

The following expenditure information will be collected via the online application:

| | Childcare Expenses |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Childcare Staff Salaries | \$ |
| Childcare Staff Benefits | \$ |
| Program Supplies | \$ |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ |
| Program Start Date | |
| End of Academic Year Date | |
| Number of Students Served | |

Assurances

The following assurances will be collected via the online application:

I acknowledge and agree that the failure to comply with all assurances and certifications in this agreement, all relevant provisions and requirements of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or CARES Act, P. L. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), or any other applicable law or regulation may result in liability under the False Claims Act, 31 USC § 3729, *et seq.*; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the U. S. Department of Education in 2 CFR part 3485; and 18 USC § 1001, as appropriate.

1. The LEA will accept funds in accordance with applicable federal and state statutes, regulations and applications, and the program will be administered in compliance with all provisions of such statutes, regulations, applications, policies and amendments thereto.
2. The LEA assures that it will comply with all assurances and certifications that were agreed to in the ***APPLICATION AND ASSURANCE FOR FUNDS RECEIVED UNDER THE CARES ACT, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF (ESSER) FUND***. The LEA must have an approved ESSER Fund application and assurance filed with DESE to access the Emergency Worker Childcare Grant funds.
3. The LEA assures that it will comply with all applicable provisions of the Cash Management Improvement Act of 1990.
4. The LEA assures that expenditures related to childcare services are for qualified emergency workers from March 13, 2020, through the end of the regular academic calendar, and have not been reimbursed through another funding source.

Cash Management Improvement Act

The Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) was created to prevent interest earnings on Federal funds. Section 31 CFR part 205 “Rules and Procedures for Efficient Federal-State Funds Transfers,” states that methods and procedures for payment must minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the United States Treasury to the state, and ultimately, to the pass-through entity. Therefore, DESE must ensure that payments to the pass-through entity are for reimbursements only. DESE must monitor payments to assure that they conform to the federal regulations.

More information on the CMIA can be found in the [Fiscal Guidance for Federal Grant Programs](#).

Payment Process for LEAs

Funds received under the Emergency Worker Childcare Grant must be reimbursements for expenditures. The application will serve as the request for payment and can be accessed at: <https://modese.wufoo.com/forms/k14864yh14b7t6y/>.

LEA Reporting Requirements

The CARES Act requires the state to report spending quarterly. LEAs receiving funds under the Emergency Worker Childcare Grant must report the amount received from this grant. The U.S. Department of Education may impose additional reporting requirements. More information about these requirements will be provided as needed.

Revenue and Project Codes

The revenue and project code associated with the Emergency Worker Childcare Grant follow.

| Grant/Funding Source | Revenue Code | Project Code |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Emergency Worker Childcare Grant (CCDF) | 5429 | 42900 |

Documentation of Expenditures

LEAs will be required to keep documentation of expenditures (payroll information, receipts, purchase orders, etc.) for monitoring purposes.

General Education Provisions Act

Each application must include, as required by Section 427 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (P.L. 103-382), a description of how the LEA will ensure equitable access to and participation in its federally-assisted program for students, teachers and other program beneficiaries with special needs, as well as any barriers that impede equitable access or participation, including gender, race, national origin, color, disability or age. The description of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those

barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. Sample statements may be found at:
<https://oese.ed.gov/gepa/>.

Additional Resources

Additional information and guidance about COVID-19 and its impact on DESE and/or LEA operations can be found on the [DESE CARES Act webpage](#).

General Contact Information

General Questions, Payment, and Reporting

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ESSER Assurances

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