



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 7, 2020

**TO:** Intermediate and Local School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*  
Finance and Operations

**SUBJECT:** Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund – Formula  
Grant Application and Information – MEMO #COVID-19-051

On May 1, 2020, you received MDE memo [#COVID-19-046](#) announcing local school district allocations for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund. Eligible districts will be able to apply for these funds starting Friday, May 8, 2020. School district authorized officials will initiate and submit the application in the Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+).

The ESSER application will require you to provide information on how you identified your most important needs and to provide a budget detailing how you intend to use these funds. In addition, you will have to outline how you will provide equitable access to students, teachers, parents, and families in non-public schools located within the district boundary. Important information related to this grant is provided here: [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/ESSER\\_LEA\\_Grant\\_App\\_689881\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/ESSER_LEA_Grant_App_689881_7.pdf) and will also be available within the MEGS+ application. This information will be updated as new information and guidance is received from the U.S. Department of Education.

Once you submit your application, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will review and approve applications in a timely manner. These are federal funds and must be drawn on a reimbursement basis.

These funds are a one-time appropriation and will not be ongoing funding for school districts. MDE strongly recommends that districts reflect carefully about the best uses of these funds, particularly given their technological needs and efforts to preserve their staffing and services to children in a challenging financial environment.

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The ESSER Fund will require additional reporting that to date has not been specified by the U.S. Department of Education (USED). MDE will provide additional detail on reporting requirements when that information is published by USED.

Questions concerning this grant can be sent to [MDE-CARES@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-CARES@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance