



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** August 7, 2020

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

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

**SUBJECT:** Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund – Formula Grant Application Reminder – MEMO #COVID-19-083

Districts that haven't taken advantage of their allotted formula federal dollars from the CARES Act's Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund are strongly encouraged to do so before the September 30, 2020 grant application deadline. To date, only 45 percent of eligible applicants have had their formula grant applications approved by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). The ESSER formula grant application was made available to eligible applicants on May 8, 2020 in MEGS+.

The ESSER Fund formula grant provides emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on school districts across the state.

The ESSER Fund formula application requires a district to identify its most important needs and to provide a budget detailing how it intends to use these funds. In addition, each district will need to outline how it will provide equitable access to students and teachers in non-public schools located within its boundary.

Once an application is submitted, MDE will review and approve applications in a timely manner. Please keep in mind that these grants are from federal funds and must be drawn down on a reimbursement basis.

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

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – PRESIDENT • PAMELA PUGH – VICE PRESIDENT  
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • TOM MCMILLIN – TREASURER  
TIFFANY D. TILLEY – NASBE DELEGATE • JUDITH PRITCHETT  
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • NIKKI SNYDER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788