

Emergency Operating Costs Reimbursement Program Frequently Asked Questions



Revised 05/2021

1) How do I know if I am eligible or will receive a reimbursement?

The team is comparing March-June 2019 reimbursement amounts to March-June 2020 reimbursement amounts, if the sponsor has a lower reimbursement in a 2020 month compared to the same month in 2019, and is also still participating in FY 2021, then that sponsor will *likely* be eligible. Your eligibility is determined separately for SNP and CACFP.

2) When will I know if I will be receiving a reimbursement?

Sponsors will be notified if they are eligible. The communication will come via email from GEMS-MARS. You will receive separate communication(s) if you are eligible for SNP and/or CACFP.

3) How much will my reimbursement be?

You will be notified of the amount of reimbursement you will be eligible for by month when you receive the communication(s) via email from GEMS-MARS.

4) Do I need to take the full amount of reimbursement I am eligible for?

Yes. You will be required to accept all reimbursement by program. If you are concerned about how you will spend the amount of money in the timespan required, please contact your program analyst for the School Nutrition Program and/or Child and Adult Care Food Program. Your analyst(s) are happy to help you answer any questions you might have about this additional reimbursement.

5) My child care center shut down, are we still eligible to receive reimbursement?

In order to be eligible to receive these additional funds, sponsors need to have submitted a claim in at least one month in September-December 2020 or January-March 2021 *OR* declared their intent to start participating again when the pandemic is over by submitting an assurance statement.

6) What if I am a new sponsor in 2020? Or did not participate in 2019?

USDA guidance provides specific instructions for this circumstance. Contact MDE if this applies to your situation. MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov

7) When will we receive the money?

After July 1, 2021, but dependent on when MDE receives the money from USDA.

8) Is there any reporting required?

In order to accept the funds, a form will need to be completed with a description of the planned use of funds.

9) Do I have to reimburse my school general fund for program loss from FY 2020?

You may reimburse the school general fund for program loss.

10) What do I have to do to get the money?

Respond to the GEMS/MARs email notification to accept the payment and terms of use.