

CARES ACT – GENERAL INFORMATION FOR BOARD 4/27/20

At the present time this is the best information the District has in regard to the funds we are expected to receive in relation to CARES Act.



CARES Update

- **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) signed into law by President on March 27, 2020.**
- **Establishes Education Stabilization Fund that includes three components**
 - Governor Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEERF)
 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSERF)
 - Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund
- **Oregon estimates approximately \$121.1 million for ESSERF and \$32.6 for GEERF that K-12 will be eligible**
- **USDOE has until April 26th to provide guidance to states and information on application process.**
- **ESSERF requires at least 90% to go to schools for very broad usage until 9/30/2021.**
- **Additionally, ODE has requested waivers that enable time extension on expenditures and flexibility with use of Title IVA and Title II funding**

The below information is taken from the language within CARES Act

Education Stabilization Fund

Consists of **\$30.750 billion** to be distributed among States, local schools, higher education institutes and other entities providing educational services that were impacted by COVID-19:

- **\$3 billion** is to be distributed among governors of each State to provide emergency support for the continued operation of educational institute services. o State Governors will receive funds in the form of Emergency Education Relief grants.

o The grant amount allocated to each State's Governor is to be calculated in accordance to the population of the state, ***"60% on the basis of their relative population of individuals 5 through 24, 40% on the basis of their relative number of children counted under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1964 (ESEA)"***, (p.754-755).

o The funds may be used for:

- Emergency support for State and local schools significantly affected by COVID-19 to aid in continuing educational services.
- Emergency support for continuing the operation of higher education institutes determined by the Governor to have had experienced significant impact from COVID-19.
- Support for any higher education, local, or other education institutes that are determined by the Governor to require assistance in arranging for emergency educational services.

• \$13.5 billion is to be utilized for elementary and secondary education.

o States are to distribute at least 90% of the formula-grants toward funding local schools for the purpose of responding to the damages incurred by COVID-19. This includes:

- Efforts by local schools that pertain to the coordination and preparation with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments in responding to the COVID-19 (p. 758).
- Assisting principal's/school leaders with necessary resources for the operation of schools.
- Assistance for low-income students, ethnic minorities, homeless students, and students of foster care.
- Training/professional development of local school staff regarding decreasing the spread of contagious diseases.
- Supplies for sanitizing facilities
- Planning for long-term closures (e.g. meals for students, technology for online learning, continuation of educational services etc.)

- Providing mental health services
- Activities for learning over the summer
- Other activities necessary for the continuation of educational services for local schools.

- \$14.25 billion for higher education.

- o The higher education emergency relief fund will be utilized for the activities of higher education institutes pertaining to the preparation, prevention and response to the impact experienced from COVID-19.

- o Funds can be used to reimburse institutes for additional expenses they acquired from the impact of the COVID-19 including:

- lost revenue
 - technology costs during the transition to online-learning
 - training for faculty and staff
 - payroll

- o Funds may also be utilized for grants to students in terms of cost of attendance

- food
 - housing
 - course materials
 - technology
 - health care and child care

- Safe schools and citizenship education will receive **\$100 million** in funds (available through 09/30/2021) for the preparation, prevention and response to the COVID-19 (domestic or international).

- o This assistance will aid in sanitary activities, counseling services, online learning, and additional costs for elementary, secondary, and post-secondary schools.

- For the period pertaining to disruptions/closures due to COVID-19, the State, local schools, higher education institutes, and other educational entities receiving funding under the Educational Stabilization Fund must continue to pay its employees and contractors (p. 765).