

March '22



State of Alabama
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)
Local Educational Agency (LEA) Application

In order to receive a CARES Act ESSER Fund allocation, an LEA must submit this application to the SEA.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. LEA Information

Table with 2 columns: Field Name and Value. Fields include LEA Name (Pike County Schools), Mailing Address (101 West Love Street), Physical Address (101 West Love Street), City/Town and Zip Code (Troy, AL 36081), Superintendent's Name (Dr. Mark Bazzell), Contact Person (Mrs. Tracey Arnold), Contact Person Position (Program Specialist), Contact Telephone Number ((334) 566-1850), and Contact Email (tarnold@pikecountyschools.com).

PROGRAMMATIC, FISCAL, AND REPORTING ASSURANCES

The United States Department of Education (USED) has approved the application from the State of Alabama for ESSER funds under the CARES Act. The availability of funds is from 4/29/2020 to 4/29/2021. LEAs will be allowed to expend funds until 9/30/2022. Pre-award costs to the ESSER fund will be allowed for allowable cost incurred on or after March 13, 2020.

2. Allowable Service(s) Assurance

The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies that:

The LEA will use ESSER funds for activities allowable under section 18003(d) of Division B of the CARES Act. The United States Department of Education does not consider the following to be an allowable use of ESSER funds, under any part of 18003: 1) subsidizing or offsetting executive salaries and benefits of individuals who are not employees of the SEA or LEAs or 2) expenditures related to state or local teacher or faculty unions or associations.

How will the LEA determine the most important educational needs as a result of COVID-19?

Pike County Schools conducted surveys and sought input of administrators on the most dire educational needs. Parents were surveyed to find out technology needs of students. The survey inquired about device needs and internet access needs. Over 1300 parents responded to the survey. In addition, after reflecting on Pike County Schools' response to the March crisis, an internal needs assessment was conducted which focused on instructional M&S, prof. learning, sanitation supplies, nurses, IT worker, and OT/PT services.

How does the LEA intend to assess and address student learning gaps resulting from the disruption in educational services?

Pike County Schools will identify instructional standards missed during the last two and one-half months for the 2019-2020 school year. We will use teacher input, assessment data and an analysis of take home information. Pike County Schools is in the process of devising a plan to remediate deficit skills and standards for all students. This remediation will be targeted for all students. In addition, when students return in the fall, Pike County Schools will administer pre-tests in core areas to better identify student learning gaps.



**CARES Act ESSER Funds  
Fund Source 4290  
Pike County Board of Education**

BUDGET (Insert for Page 2 of 5 of Amended ESSER Funds 4290)

Function	Object	Program	Amount	Brief Description of Expenditure
1100	363	1500	\$ 1,334.00	Billboard ads for grads due to Covid-19 Closures
1100	411	1500	\$ 9,834.00	Instructional supplies for take-home packets
1100	419	1200	\$ 8,100.00	Instructional materials for take-home packets
1100	429	1500	\$ 1,332.00	Instructional materials
1100	495	8100-8620	\$ 116,610.00	Student Laptops & peripherals
2120	482	8210	\$ 11,440.00	PowerSchool Enrollment Express
2140	131	8210	\$ 24,204.00	Additional LPN - Salary
2140	210-250	8210	\$ 23,796.00	Additional LPN - Benefits
2140	335	8210	\$ 650.00	Nurse Subs
2140	479	8210	\$ 4,575.00	Alternate Nursing Stations Supplies
2140	493	8210	\$ 4,575.00	Alternate Nursing Stations Med Equipment
2180	311	2900	\$ 200,000.00	OT/PT Services
2180	326	2900	\$ 39,323.00	OT/PT Services
2215	312	8220	\$ 73,000.00	PD - Training Services (Kids First) Instructional
2215	412	8220	\$ 5,000.00	PD - Supplies & Materials
3200	329	8320	\$ 29,334.00	Professional cleaning services
3200	347	8320	\$ 11,800.00	Custodial services
3200	441	8620	\$ 58,000.00	Custodial Supplies
6420	589	8640	\$ 51,200.00	IT Dept Servers
6490	139	8690	\$ 27,587.00	IT Support Worker - Salary
6490	230-250	8640	\$ 2,113.00	IT Support Worker - Benefits
6490	361	8640	\$ 700.00	IT Support - Telephone
6490	471	8640	\$ 300.00	IT Support - Supplies
6490	479	8640	\$ 69,334.00	System wide PPE, Sanitation
6490	479	8690	\$ 4,575.00	Alternate Med Stations Supplies
6490	493	8690	\$ 4,575.00	Alternate Med Stations Med Equipment
			<u>\$ 783,291.00</u>	

**What is the LEA's proposed timeline for providing services and assistance to students and staff?**

July – HS summer school program and elementary reading camps  
July – Professional learning on new learning management system  
July – Virtual school option decision  
August- Device deployment  
August – Student remediation  
September-Development tracking tool  
Ongoing-professional learning  
Ongoing- face-to-face, blended, virtual learning

All funds will be expended by September 30, 2022

**How will the LEA use ESSER funds to promote remote learning?**

Pike County Schools will implement Schoology, Edgenuity, ACCESS, and other web based options in a blended format to promote remote learning. In addition, Pike County Schools will deploy mini laptop devices at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year to students in need of such devices. PCS is currently examining options for providing internet to students in need based on technology survey results. The results were mapped to insure coverage for impacted students.

**3. Equitable Services Assurances**

*The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:*

- The LEA receiving ESSER funds will provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools as required under Section 18005 of Division B of the CARES Act.
- The LEA receiving ESSER funds will provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools located within the LEA in the same manner as provided under Section 1117 of the ESEA, as determined through timely and meaningful consultation with representatives of non-public schools.
- The LEA will ensure that it will maintain control of funds for the services and assistance provided to a non-public school
- The LEA will ensure that it will have title to materials, equipment, and property purchased with ESSER funds.
- The LEA will ensure that services to a non-public school with ESSER funds will be provided by the LEA directly, or through contract with, another public or private entity.

**Provide a brief explanation of the following: How will equitable service funds be used by the private schools? How will timely and meaningful consultation occur with private schools? What is the proposed timeline for services and assistance to be implemented by private schools?**

N/A- There are no private schools within the Pike County Schools attendance zone.

**OTHER ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

**4. Other Assurances and Certifications**

*The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:*

- The LEA that receives ESSER funds will, to the greatest extent practicable, continue to compensate its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to COVID-19 in compliance with Section 18006 of Division B of the CARES Act. In addition, LEAs that accept funds will continue to pay employees and contractors to the greatest extent practicable based on the unique financial circumstances of the LEA. CARES Act funds generally will not be used for bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenditures, unless related to disruptions or closures resulting from COVID-19.
- The LEA will request technical assistance on the use of ESSER funds for remote learning, which includes both distance education as defined in Section 103(7) of the HEA and distance learning as defined in ESEA Section 8101(14), so that students can continue learning during school closures.
- The LEA will cooperate with any SEA monitoring policies and/or procedures with regards to the allowability of expenditures.
- The LEA will use ESSER funds for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the CARES Act.

*The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:*

- The LEA will provide to the SEA the methodology used to provide services or assistance to students and staff in both public and non-public schools, the uses of funds and demonstration of their compliance with Section 18003(d), such as any use of funds addressing the digital divide, including securing access to home-based connectivity and remote-use devices, related issues in supporting remote learning for all students, including disadvantaged populations.
- The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such funds by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals for interview and examination, upon request.
- The LEA will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR Parts 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR Part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3485; and the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR Part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3474.

#### **5. Section 442 of the General Education Provisions Act Assurances**

*The LEA Superintendent or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:*

- (a) Each local educational agency which participates in an applicable program under which Federal funds are made available to such agency through a State agency or board shall submit to such agency or board a general application containing the assurances set forth in subsection (b). The application shall cover the participation by that local educational agency in all such programs.
- (b) The general application submitted by a local education agency under subsection (a) shall set forth assurances
- (1) that the local educational agency will administer each program by the application in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications;
  - (2) that the control of funds provided to the local educational agency under each program, and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency and that a public agency will administer those funds and property;
  - (3) that the local educational agency will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, Federal funds paid to that agency under each program;
  - (4) that the local educational agency will make reports to the State agency or board and to the Secretary as may reasonably be necessary to enable the State agency or board and the Secretary to perform their duties and that the local educational agency will maintain such records, including the records required under section 443, and provide access to those records, as the State agency or board or the Secretary deem necessary to perform their duties;
  - (5) that the local educational agency will provide reasonable opportunities for the participation by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals in the planning for and operation of each program;
  - (6) that any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public;
  - (7) that in the case of any project involving construction -
    - (A) the project is not inconsistent with overall State plans for the construction of school facilities, and
    - (B) in developing plans for construction, due consideration will be given to excellence of architecture and design and to compliance with standards prescribed by the Secretary under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in order to ensure that facilities constructed with the use of Federal funds are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities;
  - (8) that the local educational agency has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in each program significant information from educational research, demonstrations, and similar projects, and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices developed through such projects; and
  - (9) that none of the funds expended under any applicable program will be used to acquire equipment (including computer software) in any instance in which such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees or any affiliate of such an organization.
- (c) A general application submitted under this section shall remain in effect for the duration of the program it covers. The State agencies or boards administering the programs covered by the application shall not require the submission or amendment of such application unless required by changes in Federal or State law or by other significant change in the circumstances affecting an assurance in such application.

**6. Section 427 of the General Education Provisions Act Assurances**

(a) The purpose of this section is to assist the Department in implementing the Department's mission to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the Nation, by -

(1) ensuring equal opportunities to participate for all eligible students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in any project or activity carried out under an applicable program; and

(2) promoting the ability of such students, teachers, and beneficiaries to meet high standards.

(b) The Secretary shall require each applicant for assistance under an applicable program (other than an individual) to develop and describe in such applicant's application the steps such applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in, the project or activity to be conducted with such assistance, by addressing the special needs of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in order to overcome barriers to equitable participation, including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age.

(c) The Secretary may establish criteria and provide technical assistance for meeting the requirements of this section.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter in any way the rights or responsibilities established under the laws cited in section 400(d) of this Act.

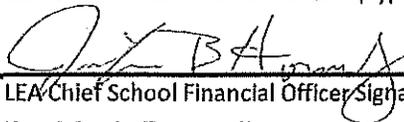
**What steps does the LEA propose to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede equal access to, or participation in, the program?**

Pike County Schools makes every attempt to remove any known barriers for students, parents, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to fully participate in any and all educational opportunities. Pike County parents are able to access current information on school and system websites. Parents are able to sign up for electronic notifications/reminders of school events and activities through the "Notify Me" system on each school's webpage. They can elect to have the notices sent to email accounts or as a text message. Pike County Schools also uses the School Messenger system to contact parents in emergency and systemwide notification situations. In addition, parents may download the Pike County Schools app on Apple and Android devices and/or follow Pike County Schools on Twitter or facebook.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information and data in this agreement are true and correct. I acknowledge and agree that the failure to comply with all Assurances and Certifications in this agreement, all relevant provisions and requirements of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), or any other applicable law or regulation may result in liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, *et seq.*; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR Part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3485; and 18 U.S.C. § 1001, as appropriate.

Jennifer Hornsby

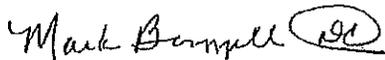
LEA Chief School Financial Officer (Typed Name)



LEA Chief School Financial Officer Signature

Dr. Mark Bazzell

LEA Superintendent (Typed Name)



LEA Superintendent Signature

(334) 566-1850

Telephone Number

03/09/2022

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

(334) 566-1850

Telephone Number

03/09/2022

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

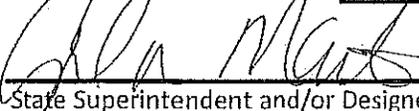
**Send completed application to CARESapp@alsde.edu.**

**Upon approval of the application, funds will be released to the LEA.**

**ALSDE Internal Use Only**

Date Application Received: 3/9/2022

Date ALSDE Approved: 3/21/2022



State Superintendent and/or Designee Signature

3/21/22

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Date CARES Act ESSER Funds Released: \_\_\_\_\_

## CARES Act ESSER Approved Application - AMENDMENT 2

Isaacs Jason <jason.isaacs@ALSDE.edu>

Thu 3/31/2022 11:00 AM

To: Tracey Arnold <tarnold@pikecountyschools.com>; Jennifer Hornsby <jhornsby@pikecountyschools.com>; Mark Bazzell <mbazzell@pikecountyschools.com>

Cc: Martin Angela <amartin@ALSDE.edu>; Kachelhofer Barry <barryk@ALSDE.edu>; Killingsworth Molly <mkillingsworth@alsde.edu>

 1 attachments (862 KB)

Pike County Schools - Approved CARES Act ESSER Application - AMENDMENT 2.pdf;

Good Morning,

Thank you for submitting your amended CARES Act ESSER Application. The application has been reviewed and approved by the Alabama Department of Education. You may start the process with the Alabama State Department of Education LEA Accounting section to draw-down your funds based on the budget narrative from your approved amended application. For your records, the final application has been attached to this email.

If there are any questions surrounding the approved application, feel free to contact me using the contact information below.

Mr. Jason Isaacs  
Alabama Department of Education  
Federal Programs Section  
(334) 694-4516  
[jason.isaacs@alsde.edu](mailto:jason.isaacs@alsde.edu)