



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

May 5, 2020

The Honorable Abby Finkenauer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Finkenauer:

Thank you for your April 2, 2020, letter to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos requesting information on the allocation of education-related funding provided for the State of Iowa in the “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act” (CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136), which was signed into law by President Trump on March 27, 2020. Your letter has been referred to the Office of Budget Service within the Office of Finance and Operations, and I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Secretary.

As you may know, Department leadership and staff have been working around the clock to award CARES Act funding as expeditiously as possible. On April 9, 2020, the Secretary announced the immediate availability of \$6.3 billion for postsecondary institutions, including nearly \$60 million for institutions in Iowa, to support Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. On April 21, 2020, the Department began accepting applications for an additional \$6.3 billion in Recipient Cost grants, which included another \$60 million for Iowa postsecondary institutions. In addition, on April 14, 2020, we announced the immediate availability of almost \$3 billion in Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund) grants, including \$26.2 million for Iowa’s Governor. Finally, on April 23, 2020, the application period opened for \$13.2 billion in awards to State educational agencies under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund), including \$71.6 million for Iowa.

We are using an expedited application and award process for all of these programs that includes the submission of a streamlined Certification and Agreement with assurances that funds will be used in accordance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements and that applicants will meet the reporting requirements in section 15011 of Division B of the CARES Act. Also, we have committed to making awards under the GEER Fund and the ESSER Fund within three days of receiving applications.

All of the information requested in your letter, including details on funding formulas, allocations under the various CARES Act programs, up-to-date information on the programs for which funds are available, the award process and any related application deadlines, frequently asked questions, and points of contact for each funded program are available at <https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus/>.

www.ed.gov

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Should you have any additional questions, please contact the Department's Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs at (202) 401-0020.

Thank you again for your letter, and for your work on behalf of the students and families in Iowa.

Sincerely,

Larry Kean, Director
Office of Budget Service