Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED)

COVID Relief Funding & School District Fund Balances

House Finance Committee

Lacey Sanders, Deputy Commissioner Elwin Blackwell, School Finance Manager April 24, 2023



Federal COVID-19 Relief Funding

Federal COVID-19 Relief Funding Received and Sources

\$74,366,177

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act March 2020 (Expired 9/30/2022)

\$167,911,142

Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA)
Act
December 2020
(Expires 9/30/2023)

\$379,386,225

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act March 2021

Expires (9/30/2024)



Total Federal COVID-19 Funding

As of January 2023

COVID-19 Totals By	Received	Obligated	Remaining
School Districts	\$517,062,056	\$516,397,322	\$664,734
DEED (Non-Admin)	\$52,905,258	\$46,298,070	\$6,607,188
DEED Admin	\$3,184,491	\$2,010,402	\$1,174,089
Other Educational Entities (Non-District)	\$15,106,986	\$13,882,065	\$1,224,921
Non-Public Schools	\$1,041,881	\$730,024	\$311,857
Child Nutrition and Library Funding	\$32,362,872	\$31,987,482	\$375,390
Grand Total	\$621,663,544	\$611,305,365	\$10,358,179



Purpose of Funds

- The CARES Act, CRRSA Act, and ARP Act provide vital support to States, LEAs, and schools as they work to reopen schools safely, maximize in-person instructional time, and address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, educators, and families.
- Allowable uses of funds may be used to implement actionable strategies to meet the urgent needs of students and educators as organizations and schools work to return to and safely sustain in-person instruction, address the educational inequities that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, or to emerge stronger post-pandemic, and address students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs

Broad Allowable Activity Categories

Supporting other Federal Programs

Coordinated Responses

Supporting Principals

Supporting
Special
Populations

Preparedness & Response

Professional Development

Supplies

Preparing for Closures

Education Technology

Mental Health

Summer & Afterschool Programs

Learning Loss

Facility Repairs

Air Quality

Continuity of Services

Health & Safety Protocols



Flexibility in Spending

- In December of 2021 the U.S. Department of Education released a <u>supplemental FAQ</u> indicating flexibility in interpretation of "prepare for or respond to COVID-19"
 - "In response to the pandemic, ESSER and GEER funds offer the opportunity to make educational systems better for students, educators, staff, schools, and their communities post-pandemic"
 - "The Department encourages SEAs and LEAs to think holistically about their response to COVID-19 in order to address the impact of lost instructional time from the pandemic on all students and to address pre-existing challenges that, if left unaddressed, will impede recovery from the pandemic"

Ensuring Allowability

DEED Engages in Proactive Measures to Ensure Funds are Spent in an Allowable Manner

- DEED has provided several resources for districts which outline the allowability of funds. One of the comprehensive resources is a workbook: <u>COVID Relief Funding</u>: <u>A Resource for Educators and School Districts to Help Guide Effective Spending of COVID Relief Funds.</u>
- In addition, the COVID team provides weekly newsletters, monthly drop-in video calls, and several webinars and data collections throughout the year.

Approval of Budgets

- Districts create a budget application in the online grants management system. At least 2 unique users at the district level are required to approve the application before it is sent to DEED for review. At least 3 unique users at DEED are involved in the budget approval process.
- The COVID Relief team reviews applications for several things.
 - Is the activity is to prepare for or respond to COVID-19?
 - Is this an allowable use of funds as outlined by federal guidance?
 - Is the activity reasonable and necessary (a requirement of all federal grants)?
- Applications are often returned to the district several times for edits and requests to remove items that do not meet the established criteria.



Reimbursement of Funds

Receiving of Funds

Districts receive their funds by submitting a request for reimbursement. Requests
for reimbursement are closely analyzed in accordance with their approved budget
application. This means a district may not submit for reimbursement for an activity that was not
approved in the approvals process outlined previously.

Accountability

- DEED is very proactive in efforts to ensure funds are spent in accordance with federal guidance.
- All districts are required to complete several data collections annually, including:
 - A data collection that requires districts to report on the progress of their annual goals and detail the local processes for evaluating programs and determining effective use of funds.
 - A data collection that requires districts to analyze their spending by category (for example, how much funding was spent on technology vs PPE).
- Furthermore, DEED conducts annual program monitoring based on risk assessments. This means that high risk districts will meet with representatives from the COVID team to discuss their grant and ensure they are in compliance with federal guidelines.
- All districts are subject to single audits as well.



COVID-19 Relief Funding Dashboard



Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) -Education and Early Development (alaska.gov)



**DEED Main COVID Dashboard - Smartsheet.com



School District Fund Balances

School District Fund Balances

- School District Fund Balances as of 6/30/2022
- COVID Federal Relief Fund Balances as of 4/15/2023

Prepared 4/17/2023						
	D(2022.0	FY2022 Pupil	ENGRADA 6 - 2-1	FY2022 Total from Other	Total COVID	
	FY2022 Operating Fund Unreserved	Transportation Special Revenue	FY2022 Capital	Governmental	Federal Relief	
	Ending Fund	Fund Ending Fund	Project Funds Ending Fund	Funds Ending Fund	Funds Remaining	
School District	Balance *	Balance *	Balance *	Balance *	(as of 4/15/2023)	Total by District
ALASKA GATEWAY	\$ 1,110,295	\$ 75,327	\$ 1,058,030	\$ 1,117,153	\$ 1,125,616	\$ 4,486,421
ALEUTIAN REGION ALEUTIANS EAST	213,246	0 423.926	1,031,200	162,158 4,398,905	33,135 187,170	1,439,739 4,948,917
ANCHORAGE	71,665,630	3,109,281	15,957,533	167,737,964	92,745,473	351,215,881
ANNETTE ISLAND	871,557	18,048	9,672,692	6,704,238	230,957	17,497,497
BERING STRAIT	110,816	667,601	18,470,872	22,363,581	6,471,262	48,084,132
BRISTOL BAY	524.879	402.533	201.776	277,740	126.676	1,533,604
CHATHAM	900,050	119,891	355,239	710,372	603,379	2,688,931
CHUGACH	453,149	0	454,006	1.612.592	003,575	2,519,747
COPPER RIVER	1,261,433	(39.541)	883,223	1,272,306	496,897	3,874,318
CORDOVA	471,130	141,703	505,992	779,194	185,540	2,083,559
CRAIG	814,199	2,236	2,787,896	1,108,363	0	4,712,694
DELTA GREELY	1,255,448	649,189	1,544,952	1,243,325	904,116	5,597,030
DENALI	1,246,587	556,216	949,327	1,925,257	40,294	4,717,681
DILLINGHAM	917,292	664,403	125,765	1,908,391	1,016,235	4,632,086
FAIRBANKS	0	4,783,827	2,347,095	13,060,039	16,128,905	36,319,866
GALENA	14,189,884	0	10,012,061	16,044,050	476,558	40,722,553
HAINES	458,323	332,422	691,856	280,241	174,316	1,937,158
HOONAH	1,460,015	30,514	876,652	84,234	723,832	3,175,247
HYDABURG	30,188	0	81,196	74,465	533,159	719,008
IDITAROD	317,448	25,593	2,775,331	382,946	446,804	3,948,122
JUNEAU	(1,787,639)	(800,853)	0	2,525,317	3,331,997	3,268,822
KAKE	368,858	11,343	294,929	638,915	213,045	1,527,090
KASHUNAMIUT	367,813	15,423	243,542	3,928,158	2,781,266	7,336,202
KENAI PENINSULA	9,298,604	303,698	0	15,131,197	11,221,898	35,955,397
KETCHIKAN	1,271,595	582,548	(10,437)	868,315	231,659	2,943,680
KLAWOCK KODIAK	0	233,660 1.279,404	4,305,949	1,932,858	465,873	6,938,340
KUSPUK	6,195,317		1,935,871	7,261,625	1,872,722	18,544,939
LAKE & PENINSULA	3,166,028	706,972 155,263	1,325,721 150,952	4,430,183 1,749,920	332,420 1,134,446	9,961,324 3,190,581
LOWER KUSKOKWIM	0	133,203	65,538,224	20,959,286	22,380,289	108,877,799
LOWER YUKON	3,746,960	0	9,656,752	19,696,850	15,908,619	49,009,181
MAT-SU	14,911,463	0	13.506.844	32,338,761	24.661.621	85,418,689
NENANA	1,278,302	0	0	1,405,394	236,707	2,920,403
NOME	1,850,546	346.839	3.288.754	3.118.890	1,006,258	9,611,287
NORTH SLOPE	4,502,261	1,521,947	0	21,161,964	3,718,290	30,904,462
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	4,711,696	0	5,263,174	3,523,884	7,347,243	20,845,997
PELICAN	207,786	1,834	516,022	10,134	76,376	812,152
PETERSBURG	1,156,125	46,649	743,277	1,090,147	296,088	3,332,286
PRIBILOF	687,833	0	162,450	1,740,724	41,911	2,632,918
SAINT MARYS	317,449	0	2,702,550	672,817	586,663	4,279,479
SITKA	2,778,561	68,265	0	2,016,157	419,647	5,282,630
SKAGWAY	1,084,223	17,249	120,393	781,220	14,490	2,017,575
SOUTHEAST ISLAND	594,875	522,701	279,921	540,434	4,011,111	5,949,042
SOUTHWEST REGION	1,939,670	641,778	665,900	6,748,942	1,580,890	11,577,180
TANANA	0	21,274	309,694	179,060	73,306	583,334
UNALASKA	953,744	56,474	1,774,518	1,547,948	1,241	4,333,925
VALDEZ	2,730,861	460,259	2,129,754	757,784	159,669	6,238,327
WRANGELL	566,437	51,335	1,065,247	541,412	531,065	2,755,496
YAKUTAT	307,163	60,021	899,386	258,759	45,390	1,570,719
YUKON FLATS	448,652	174,559	3,494,770	2,567,840	1,488,147	8,173,968
YUKON-KOYUKUK YUPIIT	3,660,300	36,839	7,091,407	6,901,644	1,979,549	19,669,739
YUPIIT STATEWIDE TOTAL	358,710 \$ 164,720,682	2,857 \$ 18,481,507	174,402 \$ 199,576,656	5,446,462 \$ 415,720,515	6,133,995	12,116,426
STATEWIDE TOTAL	\$ 164,720,682	⇒ 18,481,507	\$ 199,576,656	a 413,720,515	\$ 236,934,213	\$ 1,035,433,573

School District Fund Balances

- FY2022 Operating Fund: Unreserved Ending Fund Balance
 - School Operating Fund (General Fund) AS 14.17.505, 4 AAC 09.160
 - SB 76 (Chapter 2, SLA 2021)
- FY2022 Pupil Transportation Special Revenue Fund Ending Balance
- FY2022 Capital Project Funds Ending Fund Balance
- FY2022 Total from Other Governmental Funds Ending Fund Balance
 - Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Permanent Funds
- Total COVID Federal Relief Funds Remaining



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