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MEMORANDUM

TO: Nevada Non-Public School Administrators
FROM: Jhone M. Ebert, Superintendent of Public Instruction
DATE: March 4, 2021
SUBJECT: GEER II – Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools Funding

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to non-public school administrators related to the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021, Public Law 116-260, enacted on December 27, 2020, which provides \$4,053,060,000 nationwide for the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. Of this amount, \$2,750,000,000 is reserved for the national Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) program.

Funding for Nevada

The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) is pleased to share that these needed resources will soon be available to assist eligible non-public schools in addressing the challenges related to COVID-19, with Nevada’s share of GEER II – EANS funding totaling \$19,375,550. NDE will reserve \$200,000 of this for state administrative activities.

CRRSA states that the State Education Agency (SEA) “*must prioritize services or assistance to non-public schools that enroll low-income students and are most impacted by COVID-19.*” NDE is committed to prioritizing services to historically under-served students, and has determined a funding formula that incorporates both enrollment and income-related factors:

- Enrollment: 25% of the GEER II – EANS funds (\$4,793,888)
- Socioeconomic status: 75% of the GEER II – EANS funds (\$14,381,662)

To determine the amount of EANS funds available for allowable programs and services at each eligible non-public school, non-public schools must submit an application to NDE that includes enrollment data including information regarding students’ socioeconomic status for the 2019-20 school year.

Additional information, including how state allocations were determined, is available at the U.S. Department of Education (USED), Office of Elementary and Secondary Education website: [Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools](#). Please note that under the CRRSA Act, public school districts are not required to provide equitable services under the supplemental ESSER II and the GEER II funding.

Eligibility and Application

To receive services or assistance under the EANS program, an eligible non-public school must submit an application to the SEA. The Nevada EANS application will be available March 1, 2021 and is **due to NDE by 5:00 PM on March 31, 2021**. The Nevada EANS Application is available on the NDE Private Schools webpage at: https://doe.nv.gov/Private_Schools/. Please submit applications to Karl Wilson at: karlwilson@doe.nv.gov. The streamlined application for Nevada's non-public schools includes:

- (1) An intent to apply;
- (2) Eligibility criteria;
- (3) Required student enrollment and socioeconomic status data;
- (4) Description of COVID-19 impact;
- (5) The requested use of funds to provide allowable EANS programs and services; and
- (6) Essential assurances.

For purposes of the EANS program, an eligible non-public school is an elementary or secondary school that:

- (1) Is non-profit;
- (2) Is accredited, licensed, or otherwise operates in accordance with State law;
- (3) Was in existence prior to March 13, 2020, the date the president declared the national emergency due to COVID-19; and
- (4) Did not, and will not, apply for and receive a loan under the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(37)) that is made on or after December 27, 2020.

Socioeconomic Criteria

For the purposes of the EANS application, the criteria for defining students' socioeconomic status will be the family income levels defined for reduced-price lunch eligibility (185% of the Federal Poverty Guideline). The EANS Application provides a table that identifies levels of family income based on household size.

NDE recognizes that many non-public schools do not participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's school lunch program. Non-public schools are encouraged to use existing information and may use other socioeconomic data sources to identify the number of students whose families qualify as low-income, including one or more of the following data source(s):

- Free-or-reduced-price lunch data;
- Scholarship or financial assistance data;
- E-Rate data;
- Other relevant data, such as data that the non-public school has provided to the State for purposes of State or local programs;
- Data imputing the number of students from low-income families based on the American Community Survey (ACS) or the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program by the U.S. Census Bureau; and
- Proportionality data: the number of students enrolled in a non-public school who reside in a Title I school attendance area multiplied by the percentage of public school students in that same attendance area who are from low-income families. If the non-public school has students who reside in more than one Title I school attendance area, multiple calculations would be necessary.

Please note that no personally identifiable information (PII) is requested in the Nevada EANS application.

Allowable Uses of Funds

A non-public school receiving services or assistance under the GEER II - EANS program shall use such services or assistance to address educational disruptions resulting from COVID-19 for:

- Supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities;
- Personal protective equipment (PPE);
- Improving ventilation systems, including windows or portable air purification systems to ensure healthy air in the non-public school;
- Training and professional development for staff on sanitation, the use of PPE, and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;
- Physical barriers to facilitate social distancing;
- Other materials, supplies, or equipment to implement public health protocols, including guidelines and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff during the qualifying emergency;
- Expanding capacity to administer coronavirus testing to effectively monitor and suppress coronavirus, to conduct surveillance and contact tracing activities, and to support other activities related to coronavirus testing for students, teachers, and staff at the non-public school;
- Educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) to assist students, educators, and other staff with remote or hybrid learning;
- Redeveloping instructional plans, including curriculum development, for remote learning, hybrid learning, or to address learning loss;
- Leasing of sites or spaces to ensure safe social distancing to implement public health protocols, including guidelines and recommendations from the CDC;
- Reasonable transportation costs;
- Initiating and maintaining education and support services or assistance for remote learning, hybrid learning, or to address learning loss; or
- Reimbursement for the expenses of any services or assistance described above that a non-public school incurred on or after March 13, 2020, except for services or assistance under (C) (other than portable air purification systems, which are an allowable reimbursable expense), (D), (I), and (L)) or any expenses reimbursed through a loan guaranteed under the Paycheck Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) as of December 27, 2020.

All services or assistance provided with EANS funds must be secular, neutral, and non-ideological.

Control of Funds

Control of funds for services or assistance provided to non-public schools, and titles to materials, equipment, and property purchased with EANS funds, must be within a public agency and a public agency must administer all such funds, services, assistance, materials, equipment, and property. An SEA may provide services or assistance to non-public schools under the EANS program directly or through a contract with an individual, association, agency, or organization. For example, an SEA might enter into an agreement with a local education agency (LEA) or educational service agency to provide such services or assistance in order to leverage the existing infrastructure under other Federal education programs that require equitable services.

Recognizing that Nevada's school districts have already established fiscal systems and contracts to provide services to eligible non-public schools under equitable services provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), NDE will work with school districts to meet federal "control of funds...in a public agency" requirements.

Training & Technical Assistance

NDE has scheduled a webinar to provide training regarding the EANS program and application process:

- NDE Non-Public Schools EANS Webinar #2: Thursday, March 11, 2021 (1:00-2:00 PM)
 - [Join Zoom Webinar on 3/11/21](#)

NDE has also scheduled two Office Hour sessions to provide technical assistance regarding the EANS program and application process:

- NDE Non-Public Schools EANS Office Hour #1: Monday, March 15, 2021(1:00-2:00 PM)
 - [Join Zoom Office Hours on 3/15/2021](#)
- NDE Non-Public Schools EANS Office Hour #2: Monday, March 22, 2021(1:00-2:00 PM)
 - [Join Zoom Office Hours on 3/22/2021](#)

Additionally, non-public schools may reach out to Karl Wilson within the Office of Student and School Supports at: karlwilson@doe.nv.gov with any additional questions.

Attachment(s): GEER II EANS Application Form

cc: Dr. Jonathan Moore, Deputy Superintendent of Student Achievement
 Dr. Seng Dao-Yang Keo, Director of Office of Student and School Supports
 Gabrielle Lamarre, Esq., Title I Director and Federal Liaison
 All School District Superintendents