



Division Updates

October 1, 2020

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- ESL tests/test forms now approved through February 2, 2023,
 - CASAS Life and Work Listening (980 series)
 - CASAS Life and Work Reading
 - BEST Plus 2.0
 - BEST Literacy

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- New site to be available October 9

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▶ GEER Funds - Application

- No open date yet
- Not competitive; allocations on PDE webpage
- Application to be submitted in eGrants
 - 2019-20
 - GEER Funds for Adult Education
 - New contract; will require a signature
 - Allowable expenditures from 3/13/20-9/30/21



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▶ GEER Funds – Payment

- Submit application
- Application fully executed
- Submit invoice for amount of grant
 - Address in Appendix C
 - Incl. invoice number, FC number, remit to address
- Receive funds
- Expend funds
- Submit an FER
 - Detailed account of expenditures
 - Return any unexpended funds



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▶ GEER Funds – Grant Content

- Agency information
- Assurances
- Reporting assurances
- Budget description
- Budget form
- Budget summary



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Grant Content – Assurances

- GEERS funds will not be used to duplicate other funding sources related to the agency and COVID relief funds
- Planned expenses are aligned to the purposes of the grant related to COVID-19 health and safety plans from 3/13/20-9/30/21
- All funds awarded under this grant will be used solely for expenditures related directly to the division-funded adult basic education or family literacy services
- For grantees with subgrantees grantee will award a proportionate amount of the funds to the subgrantee(s)



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Grant Content – Reporting Assurances

- Complete a final report that includes the following data:
 - Funds received obligated;
 - A detailed summary projects or activities supported with GEER funds:
 - Name
 - Description
 - Estimated number of students/faculty/staff supported
- Not use GEER funding for bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenses
- Cooperate with examination of records
- Maintain inventory records, purchase orders, receipts for equipment purchased
- Comply with all reporting requirements



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Grant Content – Budget Description

- Utilize funds for safe reopening of schools for in-person instruction related to COVID-19
- May include
 - PPE, masks, hand sanitizer
 - Cleaning products for schools
 - Equipment for remote instruction
 - Installation of barriers or other protective devices
- Two text questions: max 2000 characters each
 - Describe institution’s needs
 - Describe how the grant will be spent



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Grant Content – Budget Form

- Salary: Prep for distance learning
- Benefits: Prep for distance learning
- Salary: Help w/technology for instructors
- Benefits: Help w/technology for instructors
- Salary: Help w/technology for students
- Benefits: Help w/technology for students
- Salary: Cleaning sites for class/student services
- Benefit: Cleaning sites for class/student services
- Salary: Install instructional tech @ class sites
- Benefits: Install instructional tech @ class sites
- Contracted Help w/technology for instructors
- Contracted Help w/technology for students
- Contracted Installation of instructional tech
- Clean sites for in-person service to students
- Student access to internet for distance learning
- Tech-related supplies: webcams, headsets, etc.
- Instructional software for distance learning
- Other software for distance learning
- Textbooks for paper-based distance learning
- PPE for teachers & students
- PPE for sites for in-person service to students
- Cleaning supplies for in-person service sites
- Staff computers to provide services at a distance
- Technology for student use (laptops, tablets, etc)

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Quote from PDE for any press releases

Should you choose to share this news with your local news media or stakeholders, Deputy Secretary Ortega has offered the following quote that could be used in a press release.

- “Adult education programs play a critical role in helping Pennsylvanians advance their skills to secure family-sustaining employment and fully participate in their communities,” Deputy Secretary for Postsecondary and Higher Education Noe Ortega said. “Funding being made through the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funds will help adult education providers continue to serve residents in a safe and healthy way.”

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Questions

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Contact/Mission

For more information on adult education and family literacy, please visit PDE's website at www.education.pa.gov

The mission of the Department of Education is to ensure that every learner has access to a world-class education system that academically prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. Further, the Department seeks to establish a culture that is committed to improving opportunities throughout the commonwealth by ensuring that technical support, resources, and optimal learning environments are available for all students, whether children or adults.



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