

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND II

Menu of Options for Early Childhood, K-12, and Higher Education



Option Eight: Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the IDEA and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all federal, state, and local requirements.

With millions of students still engaged in remote learning, investments in academic and non-academic needs and resources for students will continue to be critical. Some options on how to best target federal relief towards these needs include the following.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Partner with [No Kid Hungry](#) and coordinate with Head Start and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to support meal distribution.

Ensure meals are age-appropriate for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

Leverage educational [technologies](#) and teach parents and children how to use and access education platforms for online learning.

Develop guidance and provide resources for remote learning. [Boston Public Schools](#) created home learning kits for teachers as well as Remote/Hybrid Teacher Guides. [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction](#) created technology-free remote learning activities.

Enhance teacher training and professional development opportunities on developmentally appropriate practices, using educational technology to communicate with young children virtually, and incorporating introductory technology skills necessary for virtual schooling in the ECE curriculum.

Provide training and resources (in multiple languages) for families and caregivers to understand how to access and use online resources.

Incorporate [virtual home visiting](#) and family support activities into planning and professional development resources.

Provide appropriate developmental screening and diagnostic assessment including developing a plan for timing and use.

Develop-supported Child Find activities and home visiting services.

Purchase assistive technology and adaptive equipment so students with special needs may continue accessing learning opportunities.

Offer professional development designed to promote individualized lesson planning.

Offer remote learning support and before- and after-school services. For example, NC Department of Public Instruction offered [Innovative Childcare and Remote Extended Support Competitive Grants](#) (ICARES) where some districts partnered with licensed child care and Head Start to provide remote learning support.

Provide family engagement supports and strategies on remote learning, developmentally appropriate practices, technology use, social-emotional learning, and mental health and wellness.

Facilitate parent-teacher communication using [online platforms](#).

K-12

Provide direct financial support to families to support homeschooling, school choice, and private education costs through scholarships or microgrants.

Reimburse device purchases for students made to continue remote education.

Cover salaries and benefits for bus drivers to deliver meals to specific drop-off locations. Chicago Public Schools distributed [grab and go meals](#) and the state board of education served meals through partnerships with their [summer meals program](#).

Offer [professional development on remote learning](#) and developmentally appropriate practices, and curriculum implementation with home activities. New Jersey's Department of Education (NJDOE) provided virtual professional learning with [topics on asynchronous and synchronous learning](#).

Create community learning centers to provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours. Ohio's 21st Century Community Learning Centers redesigned their experience to restart for the 2020-2021 school year.

Purchase at-home learning kits to align with goals and objectives of LEAs.

Develop digital learning coaching model to target distance and remote learning.