

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND II

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



Option Thirteen: School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.

Though children and staff had to leave the school building following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the virus itself revealed the significant need for increased investment in capital improvement and maintenance in our nation's school infrastructure. The costs of capital improvement and maintenance are steep, and current federal relief will not cover all those costs, but policymakers nevertheless can use ESSER funds to begin the process of investing in much-needed capital improvement and repair. Some options on how to do that include the following.

EARLY CHILDHOOD & K-12-12

Install handwashing facilities or purchase/rent portable sinks as well as purchase sanitation stations for each entrance and for outdoor environments.

Install sanitization stations and water bottle filling stations.

Improve general infrastructure problems (e.g., plumbing, roofs).

Redesign and convert spaces for social distancing with furniture changes, signs and posters, and floor distance markers.

Ensure school health offices have the space to ensure that healthy students and ill persons can be separated.