

GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY EDUCATION RELIEF FUND (GEER)

OFFICE HOURS I & II FOLLOW UP

Office hours were held June 11 and 12, 2020.

HIGHLIGHTS

MINOR UPDATE TO GEER INITIAL 45-DAY REPORT CLARIFICATION

- Item 2 in the Clarification should read, "Describe the system of internal controls the State will use to ensure that GEER funds are expended for allowable purposes and in accordance with cash management principles and the Uniform Guidance. See 2 CFR §200.303."

POST AWARD CALLS

Your program officer will be reaching out to you via email to schedule the Post-award call. The Department will conduct the Post-award calls in order of the grant award date.

OPENING AND BACKGROUND

For those of you who were able to join us for Office Hours for the GEER Initial Report, thank you! For those who were not able to join us, we hope you can join us the next time we hold GEER Grantee Office Hours. We plan to hold other such sessions throughout the grant period. Please contact your program officer with ideas you may have for topics for future Office Hours.

During Office Hours, participants asked questions for clarification on reporting and other GEER-related topics. Below is a list of the general questions for all GEER grantees; neither questions nor answers were taken verbatim from the Office Hours. Office Hours were not recorded.

QUESTIONS

WHAT IF THE 45-DAY REPORT IS PAST DUE OR DUE VERY SOON?

If you need an extension, please talk with your program officer, and request an extension. We understand that this may be necessary as we have only recently distributed clarifications.

DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE A FORMAT OR TEMPLATE FOR THE 45-REPORT?

No. GEER grantees may prepare the 45-day report as they deem appropriate, but they must include all the required components of the 45-day report.

TO WHOM OR WHERE SHOULD WE SEND THE REPORT?

The Department prefers GEER grantees send the Initial 45-day report to their state mailbox, [\[State\].OESE@ed.gov](mailto:[State].OESE@ed.gov). These mailboxes are monitored daily. If you choose to send it to your program officer, that is fine as well; we suggest you copy the state mailbox.

WHAT INFORMATION SHOULD THE DESCRIPTION OF INTERNAL CONTROLS INCLUDE?

Grantees may reference the Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR, linked below. The General Accounting Office's (GAO) Green Book, referenced in the Uniform Guidance and also linked below, may also be helpful. If you have Internal Controls Plans for other Federal awards, you may look to include that information or modify it for the purposes of GEER. A grantee should clearly demonstrate how those established internal controls are being used for GEER.

INTERNAL CONTROL RESOURCES:

- Uniform Guidance: PART 200—UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS
<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=&SID=39eb812d19c012ee263eefc2283fb67&mc=true&n=pt2.1.200&r=PART&ty=HTML>
- GAO Green Book: <https://www.gao.gov/greenbook/overview>

WHEN WILL THE ALLOCATED FUNDS BE DEPOSITED IN OUR STATE AGENCY'S ACCOUNT?

The Department uses the G5 system (www.g5.gov) to manage GEER funds. All GEER grantees should have their funds available in their G5 account. If you do not have access to the G5 system, please contact your program officer.

WHEN WILL WE RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE QUARTERLY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION 15011 OF THE CARES ACT?

The Department is addressing the quarterly reporting requirements in Section 15011 across all CARES Act programs. At this time, we do not have additional information but plan to share an update as soon as it's available.

RESOURCES

Listed below are the resources we discussed in both sessions of Office Hours.

- The Comprehensive Centers, <https://compcenternetwork.org/>, provide capacity-building services to State educational agencies, regional educational agencies, local

educational agencies, and schools that improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, and improve the quality of instruction.

- The Department posted a set of FAQs on the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) provision that applies to both Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) and GEER grantees. Here is the link to the MOE FAQs,
<https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/06/CARES-Act-Programs-Maintenance-of-Effort-FAQ.pdf>
- The Department posted the GEER and ESSER certifications and applications.
 - GEER certifications and applications - <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/governors-emergency-education-relief-fund/>
 - ESSER certifications and applications - <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/governors-emergency-education-relief-fund/geer-certifications-agreements/>

If you missed the office hours and have questions, please contact your program officer through your state mailbox [\[State\].OESE@ed.gov](mailto:[State].OESE@ed.gov).