

GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY EDUCATION RELIEF FUND

FUNDING HIGHER EDUCATION TO EXPAND NEW MEXICO'S ONLINE LEARNING CAPACITY

PREPARING FAMILIES, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS AND CARE PROVIDERS, TEACHERS, FACULTY, STUDENTS, AND SMALL BUSINESSES TO MORE FULLY PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Overview

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham hereby makes the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund available to Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to transition to online learning. Higher education can lead the state – early childhood, K-12, higher education and small businesses – to more fully participate in online learning.

Total Funds Available

Up to \$4.007 million.

Eligible applicants

1. Public and Tribal Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) in New Mexico that can demonstrate significant need as a result of COVID-19
2. Collaborations of institutions of higher education, such as cross-institution technology groups, associations, and cross-institutional collaborations of teacher prep programs, early childhood preparation programs or nursing programs

Ultimate beneficiaries of grants

1. Early Childhood: Families, early childhood educators and care providers
2. Public Education: Educators and/or students
3. Higher Education: Faculty and/or students
4. Small Businesses

I. Allowable Activities

1. Preparing instructional providers

Education, professional development, and training programs specifically designed to expand the capacity and quality of remote and online learning techniques for one or more of the following groups:

- a. Early childhood care and education providers
- b. K-12 educators
- c. Higher education faculty

2. Preparing families and students

Development of curriculum, training materials, and short online “bootcamp-like” experiences to provide orientation, training, and practice modules that assist in improving family or student remote and online learning skills.

3. Supporting students

Developing or purchasing online support systems to help students mitigate issues using remote and online learning systems. Examples include online tutoring, advising, or support using technology.

4. Building institutional capacity

Purchase software and hardware, such as Learning Management System (LMS) software, that supports the transition to a blended or fully online instructional environment.

5. Improving connectivity

Purchase software or hardware, such as mobile hotspots, internet boosters, or technology, that improves students’ connectivity and enable participation in an online instructional environment.

6. Preparing small businesses

Develop training programs that support small businesses to better use online tools more effectively to carry out their work.

7. Modernizing workforce programs

Developing and delivering online curricula and coursework that fully or partially replaces in-person requirements. Examples may include workplace readiness curricula through WIOA-funded adult education programs at the IHEs and through specific employers; family literacy curricula through WIOA-funded adult education programs at the IHEs and at a distance; integrating education and training at post-secondary CTE programs to prepare students for industry-recognized certifications.

8. Providing child care services

Establishing child-care provider centers or establishing partnerships that support students who need assistance with childcare in order to participate in training and educational programs that advance their employability.

II. Application Timeline

Event	Date
RFP Release	Monday, August 24, 2020
Technical Assistance Webinar	Friday, August 28, 2020
Proposal Due Date	Friday, September 11, 2020
Proposal Reviews Complete	Friday, September 21, 2020
Award Notifications Issued	Monday, September 24, 2020

III. Proposal Packet Requirements

Proposals must include the following

1. Proposal narrative
 - a. Section that articulates the entity has been significantly impacted by COVID-19
2. Budget summary
3. Partnership agreements or letters of commitment
4. Evaluation plan
 - a. Estimated student impact (cost per outcome)

Proposals shall be submitted no later than September 11, 2020 via email to:

- Loretta Marquez at Loretta.Marquez@state.nm.us

IV. Proposal Review Rubric

Proposals will be reviewed to ensure each includes, at a minimum, the requirements included in section III. The following rubric shall be used to rank proposals that meet the minimum submission requirements.

Metric	Total Possible Points
Narrative quality & ability to demonstrate impact as a result of COVID-19	25
Activities that impact underserved or at-risk populations	20
Evaluation Plan and capacity to measure target group impact	15
Budget summary and cost efficiency of participant impact	20
Project support such as leveraged/matching funds, and/or strategic partnerships	20
Total Points	100

V. Other Provisions

- An IHE or education-related entity receiving an award must obligate the funds by September 30, 2022.
- To maximize the funds available for services to students and the public, the New Mexico Higher Education Department has limited the amount that subrecipients can charge for direct administrative costs in carrying out their GEER Fund projects to no more than 10 percent.
- Proposals may include costs for any allowable expenditures incurred on or after July 1, 2020.