

**DRAFT Options for State Use of 10% CARES Act ESSER Funds**

**Input Process:**

Input and feedback was received via DPI staff, surveys of local districts, and inclusion of local representatives and other education stakeholders on working groups. Representatives included local superintendents, education associations, Governor's office, and State Board office.

**Guiding Principles:**

Funding options are aligned with the "Lighting Our Way" resource guide for districts and schools  
 Items were prioritized based on local input and the ability of state-level funding to add value in terms of guidance, consistency, and efficiency

**Summary:**

Issues of Equity & Excellence for Students:	\$21 M
Issues of Equity & Excellence for Families:	\$17 M
Oversight & Administration:	\$ 1 M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$39 M</b>

Area	Item	Description	Option	Notes	Owner	Plan
<b>Lighting Our Way: Issues of Equity and Excellence for Students</b>						
1 a	Resource development to improve quality Blended Learning	Digital Curricula: 2020-21	Subscribe to K-8 packaged curricula - Funding to PSUs to purchase 1 year subscription to high quality, standards aligned digital curriculum packages selected by PSUs.	\$ 8,800,000 Allot to PSUs	DTL	B, C
b	Digital Curricula: Spring 2020 & Beyond	Partnerships/grants with local PSUs/educators to develop content available statewide. Short-term investment for long-term ownership of standards-aligned content. Work in conjunction with item 1a above to provide immediate content (subscription purchase for 1 year) with transition to NC-developed content.	\$ 7,000,000	NC DPI is currently working on grant application to USED along same lines. This item would complement that work or allow for progress if grant application is not approved. Dependencies include inter-PSU agreement on approved curricula developed.	DTL	B, C
2 a	Infrastructure Support for Digital Delivery	Learning Management Platform Standardization	Estimated cost to convert remaining district contracts to single statewide contract with higher support	\$ 3,500,000	Balance for DPI to provide standardized statewide LMS solution (H1043 provided \$1.5M) for all districts (2020-21 only).	DTL B, C
b	Long-term Connectivity	"Proof of Concept" with Friday Institute to pilot approaches to connectivity gap	\$ 200,000	DPI expense to support remote learning - has been proposed in School Connectivity reports	DTL/IT	B, C

Area	Item	Description	Option	Notes	Owner	Plan	
3 a	Instructional Support Partnerships	UNC-TV/Other Partnerships	Expand partnerships to provide broadcast/passive educational content for home consumption and to provide non-digital instructional support.	\$ 1,000,000	DPI and UNC-TV piloted a partnership beginning March 30, with positive response (see report). This amount would continue the partnership or, if other funds are available for that initiative, this \$1M will be utilized to support partnerships for remote instruction coaching and lesson planning efforts, with particular attention to non-digital approaches of support. This includes printing materials and resources for districts that cannot rely completely on digital delivery.	SC&I/DTL	ALL
b	Video Lessons		Stipends for highly effective teachers across grades, subjects, specialized areas to record video lessons over the summer for use by other schools/teachers during the 2020-21 school year	\$ 194,400	Estimated at \$3,360/teacher, plus \$1,500/teacher in equipment. Pair with UNC-TV item above to broadcast the lessons. Also include in NC-developed curricula. Addition of EL and EC is in response to stakeholder feedback to UNC-TV programming (3a).	SC&I/DTL	ALL
4 a	Access to quality professional development to improve quality Blended Learning	Digital Teaching & Learning support for teachers	Friday Institute Task Order	\$ 75,000	Friday Institute digital learning team support	DTL	ALL
b	Professional Development for K-12 teachers		Expanded support for professional development for NC Educators as they build their capacity for virtual and remote teaching and learning.	\$ 200,000	Specifically, a four-week asynchronous, facilitated course focused on teaching online and creating content for online instruction	NCVPS	ALL
<b>Lighting Our Way: Issues of Equity and Excellence for Families</b>							
5 a	Whole Child/Family Support	Community Learning Lab Partners	Funds to PSUs to partner with community organizations to provide supervised care for K-8 students without at-home supervision available on remote learning days	\$ 15,000,000		Fed Programs	B, C
6 a	Charters	Funds for Charter schools ineligible or waived Title I	Follows USED guidance that 10% State ESSER funds may be used to provide equitable services to the students of the 56 public charter schools that were ineligible for the 90% allocation due to Title 1 status (ineligible/waived). 147 public charter schools received allocations via the Title 1 formula distribution.	\$ 2,226,662	Funding for the ineligible, waived and underfunded charters for the CARES Act	School Business/Charter Schools	ALL
7 a	Health & Sanitation Communications Materials	Age-appropriate materials with DHHS guidance	Materials with school age-appropriate reminders on social distancing, hand washing, screening, etc. for display/use in schools	\$ 50,000	Responds to school district PIO requests for standardized materials. Includes printing and shipping costs.	Comms	ALL
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 38,196,062</b>			

Area	Item	Description	Option	Notes	Owner	Plan
<b>Administration - Oversight and Support</b>						
8 a	Oversight of Federal CARES Act Programs/Funds	Program Administrator	Program Monitoring/Compliance with USED and State requirements	\$ 200,000	Time-limited through 9/2022	Fed Programs ALL
b		Federal Programs .6 FTE Program Administrator	Existing staff member to be split funded	\$ 120,000	Time-limited through 9/2022	Fed Programs ALL
c		Internal Audit/ Fiscal Monitors	Two contract/time-limited positions	\$ 400,000	Time-limited through 9/2022	Monitoring and Compliance ALL
d		Program Support	Contract/time-limited position to support the distribution and guidance for new community learning lab partner program.	\$ 100,000	Time-limited through 9/2022	Fed Programs ALL
e		External Evaluator	Evaluation of the NC CARES Act Implementation and Impact	\$ 200,000	Task Order Friday Institute/SERVE	Fed Programs ALL
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 1,020,000</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 39,266,062</b>		