



# FY2024 COVID Discretionary Grant Information & FAQs

*A Guidance Document to Assist Organizations in Planning for FY2024 COVID Discretionary Expenses*

## Overview

---

COVID Discretionary Funding was made available to organizations through three funding packages: the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act; the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act; and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. Each funding package allowed the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development to reserve 10% of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds to provide discretionary grants to organizations for emergency needs as a result of the pandemic. Additional funds were made available to the Governor through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund.

### **Purpose**

These funds provide vital support to states, districts, schools, and organizations as they work to reopen schools safely, maximize in-person instructional time, safely sustain in-person instruction, and address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, educators, and families. These Federal emergency resources are available for a wide range of activities to address diverse needs arising from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, or to emerge stronger post-pandemic, including responding to students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs.

### **Spending Timeline**

CARES Act funding expired September 30, 2022, CRRSA Act funding expires September 30, 2023, and ARP Act funding expires September 30, 2024. If you're unsure which funding package your grant is from, please reach out to us at [DEED.CARES@alaska.gov](mailto:DEED.CARES@alaska.gov).

## FY2024 Application

---

Organizations' FY2024 COVID Discretionary applications will become available automatically in GMS once the organizations' Final Expenditure Report (FER) for FY2023 is approved. Unspent money will automatically roll over to the FY2024 application and organizations will be able to access it at that time.

### **When are FY2024 applications due?**

FY2024 applications are due September 1, 2023.

### **How do I close out FY2023?**

Please submit your 4<sup>th</sup> quarter reimbursement request and then complete the Final Expenditure Report (FER). Please see [this document which gives step by step instructions for how to complete the FER](#). Information regarding [submitting a reimbursement request can be found here](#).





## Expiring Funds in 2023

CRRSA Act funds expire **September 30, 2023**. Any unspent CRRSA Act funds from FY2023 will carry over into FY2024 and will only be available for a first quarter reimbursement. Please email [DEED.CARES@alaska.gov](mailto:DEED.CARES@alaska.gov) with any questions.

### Will there be an extension to spend CRRSA Act funds?

There will not be any extensions for spending CRRSA Act funds. The funds must be spent prior to September 30, 2023. Salaries, contracts, and subscriptions may not be prepaid beyond September 30, 2023.

The Department of Education and Early Development does not process reimbursement requests against obligations captured in an encumbrance, payment is made against expenditures only. All funds must be expended by September 30, 2023.

### What happens if an organization doesn't spend CRRSA Act funding during the FY2023 fiscal year and carries over those funds into FY2024?

Unspent CRRSA Act funds will carry over into the FY2024 application but must be spent during the first quarter as those funds expire at the end of the first quarter. Reimbursement requests must be received by October 31, 2023.

Reimbursement requests in FY2024 cannot be processed until an application for FY2024 is approved. Applications for FY2024 are not approvable until the FY2023 FER is processed.

### For organizations carrying CRRSA Act funds into FY2024, it is recommended to follow this timeline:



## New To COVID Discretionary Funding?

Check out these resources:

- [Grants Management Website \(GMS\)](#)
- [How to Use GMS Training Video](#)
- [FY2024 COVID Discretionary Handbook](#)
- [An Overview of the Allowable Uses of Funds](#)
- [GMS Document Library \(look at All Users & Applications\)](#)

### Questions?

Please contact us: [DEED.CARES@alaska.gov](mailto:DEED.CARES@alaska.gov)

Last Updated: 7/11/23



## Upcoming Dates & Deadlines for FY2024

July – August 2023	Complete FY2023 COVID Discretionary FER Submit FY2024 COVID Discretionary Application
September – November 2023	Grant monitoring (selected districts). More information coming soon.
September 1, 2023	FY2024 COVID Discretionary Applications due (sooner if your organization has carried over CRRSA Act funds)
September 30, 2023	CRRSA Act funds expire CRRSA Act funds must be spent on or by this date
October 31, 2023	First quarter reimbursement requests due (hard deadline for any organization that carried CRRSA Act funds into FY2024)
April - June 2024	Year 4 (School Year 2022-2023) Federal Data Collection for all COVID grants (questions about how funds were spent)

## Construction & Renovation Considerations

Organizations using Federal funds (such as COVID Discretionary Funding) for minor remodeling, renovation, repair, or construction contracts over \$2,000 must meet all Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements and include language in the contracts that all contractors or subcontractors must pay wages that are not less than those established for the locality of the project (prevailing wage rates) (20 U.S.C. 1232b Labor Standards).

Support is available from the following offices:

- [Alaska's Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Labor Standards and Safety Division](#)
- [US Department of Labor, Government Contracts Assistance Department](#)

At a minimum, organizations should:

- include language in contracts about the requirement to pay Davis Bacon prevailing wages;
- verify the contractor paid prevailing wages weekly;
- verify the contractor submitted certified weekly payroll; and
- keep copies of certified payroll for 3 years after project completion.

If an organization has already completed a construction project and has concerns about missing some of the above requirements, please contact [DEED.CARES@alaska.gov](mailto:DEED.CARES@alaska.gov) to further discuss.

### Questions?

Please contact us: [DEED.CARES@alaska.gov](mailto:DEED.CARES@alaska.gov)

Last Updated: 7/11/23