

From: DPI Private School Choice
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 8:07 AM
To: DPI Private School Choice
Subject: CARES Act Equitable Participation Update

Hello Wisconsin Private Schools and Interested Parties,

Under the CARES Act, local educational agencies (LEAs) must reserve funds for private school equitable services. Wisconsin is currently engaged in litigation surrounding whether the allocation of CARES Act funds should be based on the proportion of low-income students enrolled in private schools (Title I formula) under Section 1117 of the ESEA, or on the proportion of total enrollment.

While the litigation is ongoing, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) will program WISEgrants to calculate the two different allocations. One will be based on the proportion of low-income students. The other will be based on the proportion of total enrollment. WISEgrants will require LEAs to budget the lesser of the two allocation amounts for private school equitable participation for each participating private school. The process for equitable participation, communicated [here](#), will still be required.

Once the legal situation is resolved, LEAs will be able to budget additional funds as allowed for public and/or private school services, depending on the outcome of the case. Until that time, the funds held in reserve will not be accessible for either public or private school services. This process will ensure that no unallowable costs are incurred. This will allow LEAs and private schools to move forward immediately with utilizing CARES Act funds, pending resolution of this dispute.

Please use these hyperlinks for more information on the [CARES Act](#), and [ESSER grants](#) specifically. If you have questions, please contact essergrants@dpi.wi.gov.

Sincerely,

Private School Choice Programs for
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