



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

To: School System Superintendents  
From: Dr. Quentina Timoll, Chief of Staff and Operations  
Date: February 5, 2021  
Subject: New Pandemic Relief Funding Support

Good Afternoon,

Thank you all for your continued leadership.

Last month we released [Believe to Achieve](#), which serves as our roadmap to improve outcomes for all Louisiana children. As leaders on the front line of this incredibly important work, we want to support you and your teams in planning for the new pandemic relief funding in a strategic, priorities-based way to ensure every dollar is going toward the highest-impact work.

We are taking this opportunity to stress the importance of spending [within the outlined priorities](#). By doing this, we are leveraging funds on high-impact opportunities and are part of a collective, statewide effort. This will also be helpful as we track spending based on priority and communicate to our public the thoughtfulness of your use of these one-time funds.

As a follow up to the funding summary document you received earlier today, we are including additional resources and information to guide school systems. Details about allocation methodology, timelines, and allowable use of funds can be found [here](#). Below is a timeline of allocation release, budget planning, and budget approvals in eGMS.

Timeline	Action
February 2021	Release ESSERF I balances and ESSERF II estimated allocations
March 2021	Release 50% of ESSERF II formula allocations to LEAs with guidance
April 2021	LEAs use the guidance and assess needs to build out ESSERF II budgets
May 2021	LDOE reviews ESSER II budgets
June 2021	All ESSER II budgets approved (LEAs may start drawing down funds)

Once the application and allocations become available in eGMS in March, the Department will host a launch, providing school systems with pertinent information for creating their budgets in alignment with the [priorities and focus areas](#). More information about connecting expenses to these priorities will be provided in the coming weeks.

As always, the Department will continue to provide updates to our school systems as new information becomes available. Please look for this information in the [weekly newsletter](#), [Monthly System Leader Call](#), and [Monthly Federal Support and Grantee Relations Call](#).

Sincerely,  
Quentina Timoll, Ed.D  
Chief of Staff & Operations  
Louisiana Department of Education



## Louisiana Believes