



# Gilmer County Schools

Dr. Shanna Downs, Superintendent

134 Industrial Boulevard  
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February 9, 2021

Re: CARES Act – Notification of Equitable Services

Dear Private School Official:

Following a September 2020 federal court order, LEAs across the country were required to begin equitable services or increase the amount available for equitable services under the CARES ESSER Formula Grant. Georgia responded quickly to this required change and by December of 2020 the Georgia Department of Education had collected relevant data to determine which Georgia LEAs were required to begin or increase the provision of equitable services.

In order to provide additional support to these LEAs, on January 14, 2021 the State Board of Education approved an item to amend the July 2020 CARES Act Equitable Services State Activities grant to include additional LEAs and increase the amount available for several LEAs who already received the grant. The purpose of this additional CARES grant was and is to help offset the amount LEAs set-aside for equitable services under CARES I ESSER I formula grants.

All LEAs are required by law to reach out to all private schools that serve students who reside in their geographic boundaries, regardless of the private school’s location. In addition, calculations for proportionate share will be based on public school and private school poverty counts from Fall 2018. This applies to the following grants issued in Georgia:

- CARES SEA Reserve: Equitable Services

All CARES grants are intended to offset impacts related to COVID19. If your school is interested in participating in these CARES funds or if you have any additional questions, please contact Lindy Patterson at [lindy.patterson@gilmerschools.com](mailto:lindy.patterson@gilmerschools.com) or by telephone at 706-276-5000 by Friday, February 12, 2021.

Sincerely,

*Lindy Patterson*

Lindy Patterson  
Director of Federal Programs and Title IX Coordinator  
Gilmer County Schools

	Yes, the school is interested in participating and would like to begin consultation
	No, the school is not interested in participating but like to be notified of future CARES Act SEA Reserve Opportunities.
	No, the school is not interested in participating and please DO NOT notify the school of future CARES Act Opportunities.