



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

March 1, 2021

To: Nebraska Non-Public School Administrators

CC: State Board of Education, Commissioner's Cabinet, and NDE Leadership

RE: Commissioner's Message: EANS Fund Allocations & Application

The U.S. Department of Education launched the Emergency Assistance for Non-Public School (EANS) initiative through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act (CRRSA) in December 2020. The bill enabled the Governor to secure and for the Nebraska Department of Education to administrate \$17 million in funds to address the impact of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) through academic recovery and acceleration and supplement safety efforts for K-12 non-public schools in the State.

Therefore, I highlight recommendations and best practices to consider to effectively mitigate the impact of COVID-19 for the most vulnerable students who depend on our K-12 non-public schools.

- Support At-Risk Populations
- Braid EANS assistance with other resources to accelerate and maintain high-quality teaching and learning environments.
- Utilize the [Launch Nebraska](#) Coronavirus Resource Website
- Support a Hierarchy of Digital Learning Needs: Technology, Devices, Software Systems, Digital Content, and Professional Development and Training
- Provide Supplemental Student Learning Opportunities

The [Preliminary Allocation of EANS Services and Assistance](#) have been released on the NDE CARES Act website and reflect preliminary distributions of services or assistance that will be made available to eligible non-public schools through the Nebraska EANS Program. The allocations are based on data that was supplied by the nonpublic schools through the NDE Consolidated Data Collection for the 2019-2020 school year. ***This is only an estimate, based on current data.*** It is likely that all school allocations will change after schools have identified their intent to participate in the EANS Program.

The Nebraska Department of Education will allocate services or assistance to Nebraska non-public schools serving K-12 students established prior to March 13, 2020 and accredited or approved to operate in accordance with Nebraska Administrative Rule 10 or 14, respectively. A non-public school is still eligible for EANS if the school was granted a Personal Paycheck Protection (PPP) prior to December 27, 2020 and/or will not apply for and receive a PPP loan on or after December 27, 2020.

To advance equity and fulfill the essence of the federal law, the Nebraska Department of Education has allocated 50% of the total EANS funds based on Student Enrollment counts

and 50% based on reported Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) counts. The formula assigns a K-12 per pupil amount for each student enrolled regardless of a student's socioeconomic status and an additional amount provided for students identified as low-income with a minimum allocation of \$5,000 per eligible school.

Each eligible non-public school must submit an [Application for Funding: Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools](#) to participate or decline participation in the EANS program by March 30, 2021.

Services and assistance under the EANS program will be requested by schools and distributed to schools through a third-party vendor. The Nebraska Department of Education will share those details as they become available.

EANS Program Timeline:

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| March 1 | Preliminary Allocation of Services and Assistance Posted |
| March 1 | EANS Application Available to Non-Public Schools |
| March 1-30 | Schools Complete and Submit Application |
| April 1-30 | Final Allocation of Services and Assistance Posted |
| May 1 | Schools Qualify Budgets and Begin Requesting Services or Assistance |
| June 28 | Obligation Date – Services or Assistance Purchased or Under Contract |

For additional information on allowable services or assistance, please see the U.S. Department of Education: [EANS Program Frequently Asked Questions](#) and the [NDE CARES Act website](#) under the EANS Services & Assistance Tab.

For program or operational questions, please contact Jim Kent, Nebraska Non-public School Ombudsman, at Jim.Kent@nebraska.gov.