

Dear Chiefs,

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) sent the first round of Education Stabilization Fund (ESF) liquidation extension decisions today in response to some states' project-specific extension requests (appeals) submitted after March 28. We are inviting chiefs to join a special chiefs call on **Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 2 p.m. EDT** focused on this topic. A calendar invitation is available for download [here](#) and the direct Zoom link is available [here](#). If you are unable to attend, you may designate one senior representative to join this call on your behalf.

CCSSO is working to track these requests and aggregate information on behalf of all state and territory members. **If your state or territory received a response from ED, please forward the response to Jessah.Walker@ccsso.org.** If you have not yet received a response to your appeal request, our understanding is that ED is conducting reviews on a rolling basis and will send more decisions soon. As a reminder, ED launched a new [webpage](#) with information on the ESF liquidation extension process. This page includes information on extension requests and an appeals process.

As always, if you have additional questions, please contact me or CCSSO's Manager of Federal Relations Jessah.Walker@ccsso.org.

Thank you,
Melissa

Information for your calendar:

Topic: CCSSO Chiefs Call on ESF Liquidation Appeals

Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Time: 2 p.m. EDT

Link: Here is the [Zoom link](#) for your calendar



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Education Stabilization Fund Liquidation Extensions

Education Stabilization Fund Liquidation Extensions

On March 28, 2025, U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon [notified](#) Chief State School Officers that the Department was modifying the time period to liquidate obligations under the Education Stabilization Fund, including all programs funded by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) and American Rescue Plan (ARP) acts, to end on March 28, 2025 at 5:00 PM ET.

Opportunity to Request Project-Specific Extensions

The Department will consider an extension to the liquidation period on an individual project-specific basis. To obtain an extension, States are instructed to submit information to the email address listed below explaining

1. how a particular project's extension is necessary to mitigate the effects of COVID on American students' education, and
2. why the Department should exercise its discretion to grant the State's request.

On April 3, 2025, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary (PDAS/AAS) Sanon sent a [dear colleague letter](#) to Chief State School Officers to include

additional information States may submit to support their project-specific liquidation extension requests.

States and Outlying Areas may submit requests individually or in batches. Please submit requests for project-specific extensions to the corresponding program office:

- ARP ESSER and EANS: ESSERF@ed.gov
- ARP-HCY: HomelessED@ed.gov
- ARP-OA SEA: ESF.Outlying@ed.gov

Review Process

As of April 23, 2025, the Department has received over 150 project-specific requests from 29 States and Outlying Areas:

American Samoa, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Guam, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, New Hampshire, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia, Wisconsin, and West Virginia.

The Department will use the following process to review each request as it is received and provide notice to States of approval or denial.

Step 1: Receive request from SEA in the corresponding OESE program office mailbox.

Step 2: Program Office Reviewer reviews requests, including provided documentation, and may follow up with the requestor to seek additional information as needed to process the request.

Step 3: Program Office Reviewer provides initial summary of review to program Office Senior Leadership.

Step 4: Program Office Senior Leadership approves/denies request.

Step 5: Program Office Reviewer prepares approval/disapproval letter for program office senior leadership signature, including reasons for approval/disapproval.

Step 6: Program Office transmits approval/disapproval letter to requesting SEA official.

Opportunity to Appeal

A State agency whose project-specific request is denied may request an appeal of these decisions consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.342. As to each decision for which an appeal is sought, the requestor should provide additional information to support the contention that the project provides necessary services that directly mitigate the effects of the COVID pandemic on students' education. An appeal must be submitted no later than 30 calendar days from the receipt of a denial. States may submit requests to ESFAppeal@ed.gov.

Liquidation Extension Resources

- [Dear Colleague Letter: Follow Up on ESF Funding \(April 3, 2025\)](#)
- [Letter to State Chiefs: ESF Funding \(March 28, 2025\)](#)

Office of Communications and Outreach (OCO)

Page Last Reviewed: April 24, 2025

Pay for College

Fill out the FAFSA

529 Plans

Loan Forgiveness

1098 Tax Forms

Educational Resources

504 Plans

FERPA

IEPs (Individualized Education Program)

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