



GRANT INFORMATION GUIDE

American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (ARP EANS II)

Maryland State Department of Education

200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Deadline

July 15, 2022

No later than 11:59 p.m. EST

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Program Description

The [Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools](#) (EANS) program provides emergency assistance or services to eligible Nonpublic Schools in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of the program is to support COVID safety and to address educational disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law, granting all state Governors Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER II) fund. Maryland's EANS program allocation is \$39,248,769.

On July 9, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) posted final requirements regarding the implementation of the Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) program under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. Under the ARP EANS program, the USDE granted awards by formula to the Governor of Maryland.

NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM

American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (ARP EANS II)

PURPOSE

To provide services and assistance to eligible Nonpublic Schools to address safety needs and educational disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

AUTHORIZATION

[American Rescue Plan-Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools](#)

DISSEMINATION

This Grant Information Guide (GIG) was released on June 16, 2022.

DEADLINE

Proposals are due no later 11:59 p.m. EST on July 15, 2022.

GRANT PERIOD

January 1, 2022 – September 30, 2024

FUNDING AMOUNT AVAILABLE

\$39,248,769

GRANT SERVICES AMOUNT

All eligible Nonpublic Schools will receive services and assistance for COVID-related impacts and the safe opening of schools.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications for program participation must be submitted electronically through [the ARP EANS II online application](#). Nonpublic schools will submit information regarding eligibility and requests for services and assistance through the on-line applications. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EST July 15, 2022.

STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

The MSDE is responsible for providing required information, data, documentation, and technical assistance to facilitate the completion of grant activities and services. MSDE ensures implementation of the program consistent with all relevant federal requirements.

PROGRAM CONTACT

Nicole Obregon
Grants Manager
(410) 767-2939
mdeansprogram.msde@maryland.gov

Eligibility

This funding opportunity is designed to provide emergency, pandemic-related assistance to Nonpublic Schools that enroll a significant percentage of students from low-income families and are most impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic. Nonpublic Schools must meet the following criteria:

Regulation	Status	Population	Impact
Meet the State definition of Elementary and Secondary Education ¹	Authorized or registered to operate in Maryland	Enrolls a significant percentage (at least 20%) of students from low-income families	Are most impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic
AND Comply with the regulatory definition of Elementary School ²	AND Operating since and open prior to March 13, 2020	Enrolment is based on the current 2021-2022 school year	

Note on population: To be counted as a student from a low-income family for purposes of the ARP EANS program, a student must be aged 5 through 17 from a family whose income does not exceed 185% of the

¹ [Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 1-101\(g\)](#) "Elementary and secondary education" means education and programs of education from and including preschool through the end of high school and their equivalent.

² [COMAR 13A.09.10.02 \(11\)](#) "Elementary school" means an educational program that is provided by a teacher to students in any grade or consecutive sequence of kindergarten and grades 1-8, consisting of instruction in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and, if applicable, other curricular areas.

[2020 Federal poverty threshold](#) (\$48,470 for a family of four). To obtain a count of students from low-income families enrolled in a Nonpublic School, a Nonpublic School may use one or more of the following sources of data, provided the poverty threshold is consistent across sources:

- Free and reduced-price meals (FARM) data;
- Scholarship data; or
- Financial assistance data.

Current enrollment is based on the 2021-2022 school year. However, federal guidelines require the use of the 2020 Federal poverty threshold.

Note on impact: A Nonpublic School is most impacted by the COVID-19 emergency based on one or more of the following factors (see the [Maryland COVID dashboard](#) for statewide data);

- The number of COVID-19 infections per capita in the community or communities served by the Nonpublic School;
- The number of COVID-19-related deaths per capita in the community or communities served by the Nonpublic School;
- Data on the academic impact of lost instructional time and the social, emotional, and mental health impacts on students attending the Nonpublic School attributable to the disruption of instruction caused by the COVID-19 emergency; or
- The economic impact of the COVID-19 emergency on the community or communities served by the Nonpublic School.

To be eligible, nonpublic did not, and will not, apply for and receive a loan under paragraphs (36) or (37) of section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(37)) that is made on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

Allowable Services and Assistance

A Nonpublic School may receive services or assistance under the ARP EANS program to address educational disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 emergency for:

- A. Supplies to sanitize, disinfect, and clean school facilities;
- B. Personal protective equipment (PPE);
- C. Improving ventilation systems, including windows or portable air purification systems to ensure healthy air in the Nonpublic School;
- D. Training and professional development for staff on sanitation, the use of PPE, and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;
- E. Physical barriers to facilitate social distancing;
- F. Other materials, supplies, or equipment to implement public health protocols, including guidelines and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening

and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff during the COVID-19 emergency;

G. Expanding capacity to administer coronavirus testing to effectively monitor and suppress coronavirus, to conduct surveillance and contact tracing activities, and to support other activities related to coronavirus testing for students, teachers, and staff at the Nonpublic School;

H. Educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) to assist students, educators, and other staff with remote or hybrid learning;

I. Redeveloping instructional plans, including curriculum development, for remote learning, hybrid learning, or to address learning loss;

J. Leasing of sites or spaces to ensure safe social distancing to implement public health protocols, including guidelines and recommendations from the CDC;

K. Reasonable transportation costs; and

L. Initiating and maintaining education and support services or assistance for remote learning, hybrid learning, or to address learning loss.

Awarded services and assistance may not be used for and will not include:

- Reimbursement for items or services purchased.
- Pursuant to ARP EANS statutory requirements and unlike the EANS program authorized under section 312(d) of the CRRSA Act, the MSDE may not use ARP EANS funds to provide reimbursements to any Nonpublic School.
- All services or assistance provided (including equipment, materials, and other items) shall be secular, neutral, and non-ideological.

Notes:

- Nonpublic Schools may request service or assistance, which the MSDE procures through a state-approved vendor.
- The MSDE must retain title to materials, equipment, and property purchased for the ARP EANS program. Section 312(d)(7) of the CRRSA Act, for example, requires an SEA or another public agency to keep title to materials, equipment and property purchased with EANS funds and the public agency must administer such materials, equipment, and property.
- Additionally, 34 C.F.R. § 76.661 requires that equipment and supplies purchased with EANS funds must be able to be removed from a non-public school without remodeling the non-public school facility. Moreover, under 34 C.F.R. § 76.662, an SEA is prohibited from using EANS funds for construction.

Note on Priority Order: If the value of services and assistance requested exceeds the total available funding amount, the MSDE will determine the available funds for each site using the proportion of low-income students. The MSDE will determine the services and assistance for each Nonpublic School based on the priority order the Nonpublic Schools identified for requested services and assistance in the grant application. The MSDE will then issue application award notices that include approved and unapproved requests for each applicant and application denial and explanation notices to each denied applicant.

Application

Applications for program participation can be accessed through [the ARP EANS II online application](#). This form allows eligible Nonpublic Schools to identify services and assistance under the ARP EANS II program. Applicants will request allowable services and assistance. In addition, applicants will designate the priority level of each service and assistance requested for their school.

Review Process

The MSDE will determine the services and assistance for each Nonpublic School based on the priority order the Nonpublic Schools identified for requested services and assistance in the grant application. If the total request(s) exceed total funds for an eligible applicant, the MSDE will move down the priority order until it identifies requests it can provide in full within the available award amount. The MSDE will then issue application award notices that include approved and unapproved requests for each awarded applicant and application denial and explanation notices to each denied applicant.

Applications and any supporting documentation must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EST July 15, 2022.

Once an application is submitted, the MSDE will review the application to confirm eligibility and examine the services or assistance being requested. At the conclusion of the grant application window, the MSDE will examine all requests from eligible Nonpublic Schools and will determine:

1. The approval of an applicant's requests as determined by the capacity of the MSDE to administer via direct service or assistance the items included in the grant application submission; and
2. The aggregate, total cost, and scope of all approved requests from eligible applicants.

If request(s) exceed total funds available, the MSDE will use the Nonpublic Schools' priority ranking of items requested to determine request it can provide in full within the available award amount. After award amounts and services/assistance are determined, the MSDE will begin the process of procuring the service and/or assistance from existing available state contracts and/or intergovernmental cooperation purchasing agreements.

The MSDE will need to seek approval of all contracts by the Board of Public Works. Program administration will continue upon the successful completion of procurement with the Board of Public Works. The MSDE or a third-party vendor will then coordinate and distribute procured services and assistance to awarded applicants.

At the conclusion of the grant period, the MSDE will retain ownership of MSDE-controlled assets administered through the ARP EANS II program.

The General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), Section 427

Each application must develop and describe the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in, the project or activity to be conducted with such assistance, by addressing the special needs of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in order to overcome barriers to equitable participation.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The Maryland State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry/national origin, color, disability, gender identity/expression, marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. For inquiries related to Department policy, please contact:

Equity Assurance and Compliance Office
Office of the Deputy State Superintendent for Operations
Maryland State Department of Education
200 W. Baltimore Street - 2nd Floor Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595 410-767-0123 - voice
410-767-0431 - fax
410-333-6442 - TTY/TDD

Customer Service Support Sessions

Customer service support sessions will be offered throughout the application window for Nonpublic Schools and their representatives that have questions about the application and process. The MSDE will also post recordings of each type of session on its website. Each customer service support session will review:

- Documentation needed: The MSDE will provide an overview of the grant program and will walk attendees through where to find and how to complete the various documents required to finish and submit the grant application form.
- Online application: The MSDE will walk attendees through each question of the grant application form.
- Questions & answers: The MSDE will use any remaining time for questions and answers so that the MSDE can provide as much tailored support for applicants as possible.

To register for a session, send an email to mdeansprogram.msde@maryland.gov. Below is a list of customer service support sessions:

- June 22, 2022 from 10am-11am
- June 29, 2022 from 2pm-3pm
- July 7, 2022 from 10am-11am

Questions

If you have questions about the application or the process, please contact the Program Monitor:

Nicole Obregon
Grants Manager
(410) 767-2939
mdeansprogram.msde@maryland.gov

A list of frequently asked questions (FAQ) and answers will be posted on the on the [Maryland EANS webpage](#) following customer service support sessions.

Application Timeline

This funding opportunity, including all attachments and updates, are found on the [Maryland EANS webpage](#).

Date	Program Milestone
June 16, 2022	The grant application period opens, and Nonpublic Schools can submit their online application for funding
June 21 from 10-11am	Customer Service Support Session
June 29 from 2pm-3pm	Customer Service Support Session
July 7 from 10am-11am	Customer Service Support Session
July 15, 2022	All applications are due by 11:59 p.m.
July 18, 2022	The MSDE begins processing applications for completeness and eligibility. The MSDE will notify applicants of incomplete applications and/or errors in applications.
August 1, 2022	Applicants will be notified of the award decision.
August 2022	Program administration of approved assistance and services, including confirmation of shipping and delivery of services.
June 30, 2024	Program administration of approved assistance and services ends.
July 2024	The MSDE begins the process of retrieving procured service or assistance.
September 30, 2024	The grant period ends.

Appendix

ARP EANS II SAMPLE APPLICATION



Default Question Block

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS) II program provides emergency assistance or services to eligible nonpublic schools in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of the program is to address educational disruptions caused by the COVID-19 emergency. The EANS II is a part of the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) fund, and of which the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) must administer.

The MSDE cannot pass funds to Nonpublic Schools to administer. Additionally, EANS II is not a grant program. Instead,

the law requires that the MSDE directly provide services or assistance to nonpublic schools. The MSDE owns and retains control of and title to any materials and equipment purchased as part of the EANS II program.

All applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on July 15, 2022.

Select your school name from the drop-down list of Nonpublic Schools in Maryland.

If you don't see your school name on this list, select "other" and you will be prompted to enter your school name on the next page.



Please provide your Nonpublic School's name

Block 1

Provide the following information for your Nonpublic School:

Address

Address 2

City

State

Five Digit Postal Code

Please provide the contact information for two individuals associated with your Nonpublic School. One should be the

principal of your school. Additionally, designate an asset custodian (point of contact) at the Nonpublic School to coordinate with the MSDE on the procurement and inventory of services and assistance to the school. This individual will receive a digital copy of this completed application.

Principal Name

Principal Phone Number (No dashes or other characters)

Principal Email Address

Custodian Name

Custodian Title

Custodian Phone Number (No dashes or other characters)

Custodian Email Address

Block 5

Does your Nonpublic School meet the State definition of an elementary school or secondary school?

Notes:

Standalone preschools do not meet the definition of an elementary school.

Schools must serve at least students in grade 1 to meet the definition of an elementary school.

See [Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 1-101\(g\)](#). “Elementary and secondary education” means education and programs of education from and including preschool through the end of high school and their equivalent.

- Yes
 No

Is your school a Nonpublic School, as defined in [Maryland Education Article § 2-206](#)?

- Yes
 No

Has your Nonpublic School been open and operating prior to March 13, 2020?

- Yes
- No

Block 3

It looks like your school does not meet the eligibility criteria to participate in this program. If you have any questions, please send an email to mdeansprogram.msde@maryland.gov.

Block 6

To be eligible for participation in this program, at least 20% of the

Nonpublic School's total enrollment must consist of students from low-income families. Please provide enrollment data below for the 2021-2022 school year.

Total student enrollment

Number of students from low-income families

Percent of students who are from low-income families

Upload documentation that demonstrates the low-income student enrollment data provided in the previous question. Please use school letterhead to submit a statement regarding the data source and calculations for this requirement. Do not submit individual student names.

Block 2

Download the [ARP EANS Procurement Request](#) form, complete it, and upload here. The MSDE will procure the service/assistance directly from state approved vendors and will arrange delivery of procured service/assistance. Please ensure you select a priority (low, medium, or high) for each requested service/assistance. Higher priority requests will be fulfilled first in the event that the value of the requests for funding exceed the amount available.

Reimbursements will not be issued for ARP EANS II.

Block 6

In order to be eligible to participate in the ARP EANS II program, a Nonpublic School must agree to the following terms and conditions:

I agree. I do not agree,

The MSDE must maintain control of services and assistance provided to a nonpublic school under the EANS program and retain title to materials, equipment and property purchased with such funds. The MSDE must administer such funds, materials, equipment, and property. Therefore, the MSDE will assume ownership and title to all materials, equipment and property purchased using EANS funds.

All services or assistance provided under the program must be secular, neutral, and non-ideological.

The recipient must retain all records of the services and assistance relating to the EANS program for a period of three years, or longer if required by federal regulation. Such records shall be made available for inspection and audit by authorized representatives of MSDE.

The nonpublic school will maintain an inventory of all services and assistance under the EANS program, including the location of materials. The nonpublic school understands that the items are the property of the MSDE, and that it must not sell the items purchased through this program. The nonpublic school will receive prior written approval from the MSDE regarding the disposition of items purchased through the EANS program.

EANS funds will not be used to provide direct or indirect financial assistance to scholarship-granting organizations or related entities for elementary or secondary education or to provide or support vouchers, tuition tax credit programs, education savings accounts, scholarships, scholarship programs, or tuition-assistance programs.

Applicants must upload a signed certification page, which is a federal form, as part of the application. Download the [EANS Certification page](#), complete the bottom portion of the page, and upload here. Applications which **do not** include a signed certification page **will not** be considered.