

### **EDUCATION FUNDING GUIDE**

**REVISED MARCH 2022** 



# Our guide to finding solutions that help meet your needs.

ASK ABOUT OUR GRANTS APPLICATION PROGRAM (GAP)









## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EDUCATION FUNDS

TO BOOST LEARNING ACHIEVEMENT

BY DR. DON GEMEINHARDT GRANT ADVISOR

At the end of 2021, federal funds released due to the COVID-19 pandemic (ARPA ESSER III) were beginning to get to the states and districts that applied. There were still districts that were just starting the application process. Unfortunately, many districts were well behind, so funds could not be obligated at the beginning of the year. A few districts have yet to receive instructions and are waiting for applications. **The window of time for the availability of these funds is quickly closing.** With this in mind, states need to know the plans involved for obligated funds including through the end of 2024.

For ideas on how different states are planning to use federal funding, go to <u>covid-relief-data</u>. <u>ed.gov</u>. To learn about state allocations, see <u>Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Tracker</u>. This tracker will also allow you to see the process for each state. Be sure to look for the most recent updates on state purchasing trends. It's not surprising that many districts and schools have invested in technology, mental health support, professional development services, and STEM-related programs and products. Updates show a wide range of solutions with high approval rates so getting what your district needs is a near 100% certainty.

Getting the help needed for your school or district is not difficult. The Department of Education has worked, and continues to work, closely with states to get this vital funding to their districts and schools and more importantly, their teachers and students. Of course, if you don't apply, it won't happen. Take the first step in getting available education funds to help meet student achievement needs.







## MAKING THE SHIFT EMBRACING EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Educators continue to work through overcoming the challenges to the traditional means of delivering instruction, showing their resilience in the face of hurdles such as school closures, distance teaching, and ensuring the physical and emotional well-being of their students. When provided with solutions that can help make connections between how students are learning with what students are learning, teachers' confidence improves and they become empowered to try different strategies to enrich class interaction.

As education moves towards a generational change to embrace technology, sifting through the influx of solutions can be a monumental task. Decision-makers want to make sure that the investments they make now will meet instructional needs well into the future. **Education funding, such as federal relief funding,** has never been more critical to help improve school learning environments.

The federal government has made over **\$190 billion** available in funding to help meet learning needs including, but not limited to, provisions for –



 addressing learning loss through evidence-based interventions that respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs



• conducting activities to address the unique needs of students from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth



## PURCHASING education technology

 purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity as well as assistive technology or adaptive equipment)



 planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term school closures including providing technology for online learning to all students



#### RESOURCES for schools

 providing principals and school leaders with resources necessary to address individual school needs, homelessness, and foster care youth



• summer learning, and supplemental after-school programs



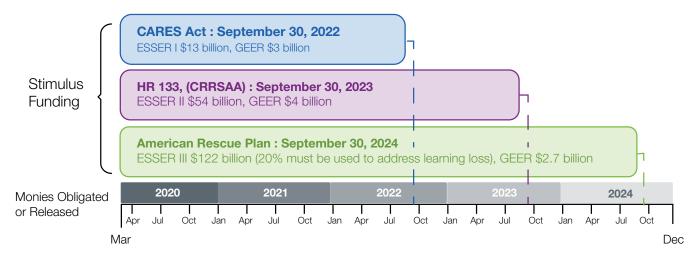


## **SELECTING THE RIGHT**

RESOURCES AND TOOLS

Decision-makers need to make choices soon for CARES Act funding, while selections for HR 133 and the American Rescue Plan could be made concurrently to save time and energy.

Each federal funding opportunity has separate dates by which monies must be obligated or released (see chart below). While the dates for obligated funds vary per state, many districts have extended this filing deadline to ensure districts and schools receive the money needed.\* For more information on how funds are allocated by state, <u>click here</u>. States have generally closed the application period for CARES ACT and CRRSAA funding. However, the application window for ARPA and ARP ESSER III is still open for most states.



<sup>\*</sup>Check your state application forms or ask your district or state grant representative.

#### TERMS:

CRRSAA: Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act

ESSER: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund



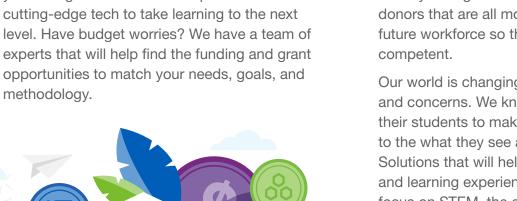
SELECTING OTHER **DIRECTIONS FOR FUNDING** USING GAP (GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) BY BOXLIGHT

The window to apply for COVID-19 related funding will close soon. There are still opportunities to fund critical ed tech solutions via private businesses, large corporations, government

agencies, and more.



As a leader in educational technology, Boxlight wants to support your drive to change the educational experience with powerful solutions and ongoing support. We want to help guide you through the successful implementation of cutting-edge tech to take learning to the next level. Have budget worries? We have a team of experts that will help find the funding and grant opportunities to match your needs, goals, and





Our Grant Application Program (GAP) team, working with our Sales team, will collaborate with you as we focus on the "what", "why", and "how" of your district or school. We will identify the right funding opportunities from donors that are all motivated to help prepare our future workforce so that they are confident and

Our world is changing and so are our challenges and concerns. We know that educators want their students to make relevant connections to the what they see and hear around them. Solutions that will help transform the teaching and learning experience include those that focus on STEM, the environment, mental and emotional health and well-being, and school safety and security.

GAP is here, headed by Dr. Don Gemeinhardt, E.D. and always associated with your local sales rep and support staff. We are ready and willing to collaborate with you on the concepts and experiences you want to explore for your teachers and students.





## QUESTION CHECKLIST KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Teachers are the front-line workers of education. In addition to the very important PPE, teachers also need equipment and tools that cover a range of areas – instructional design, class collaboration, accessibility for students with different needs, assessment and data, STEM, and professional development. District and school decision-makers must make decisions that encompass these areas so that student learning is taking place in a 'connected classroom' for any situation that may come along.

To help in the decision-making process, administrators should check for these key considerations when selecting a solution:

✓ Is it from a trusted brand?

Low-cost doesn't always equate with best value. Read testimonials, case studies and success stories, and ask about industry awards.

- Are options customizable to meet teacher needs? Teachers should be able to use favorites – apps, lessons, materials, resources – whenever they need it without having to spend an excessive amount of time creating something new.
- Can it work with different tech like Chromebooks, iPads, and Android devices? Students are digital natives who are accustomed to using a device, so connectivity is vital for teachers to facilitate instruction and for students to complete assigned tasks.
- ✓ Does it support remote learning? Teachers need to be prepared for any eventuality, including school closures, so remote learning capability is a must. This includes lesson creation and presentation, assessment features, and communication tools such as video conferencing and messaging.

✓ Are teachers able to work from anywhere?

Teachers want the flexibility to work from anywhere, with the ability to access their files – docs, PowerPoint, SMART Notebook, ActivInspire, G Suite, Microsoft 365 - and save to their cloud drives (Google Drive, One Drive).

✓ Is training and ongoing support provided?

To get the best return on investment, school staff needs training that helps them best use the technology features and tools. Training should be available for both live and self-paced learning, with ongoing support from digital specialists.

✓ Are there ongoing subscription fees?

Teachers shouldn't have to worry about renewing subscriptions or paying for apps. They should be able to choose from the resources available with the confidence that they can always be used without pause.

✓ Can we trust that our data will be safe from outside breaches? Teachers, students, and parents should be able to rest assured knowing that their data is protected. We recommend that you research if the company is U.S.-owned to ensure that your data is better secured against the threat of hacking.



## **BOXLIGHT SOLUTIONS**

#### ALIGN WITH FUNDING GOALS & MEET DIFFERENT LEARNING NEEDS

with resources...

**PLANNING** 

for closures

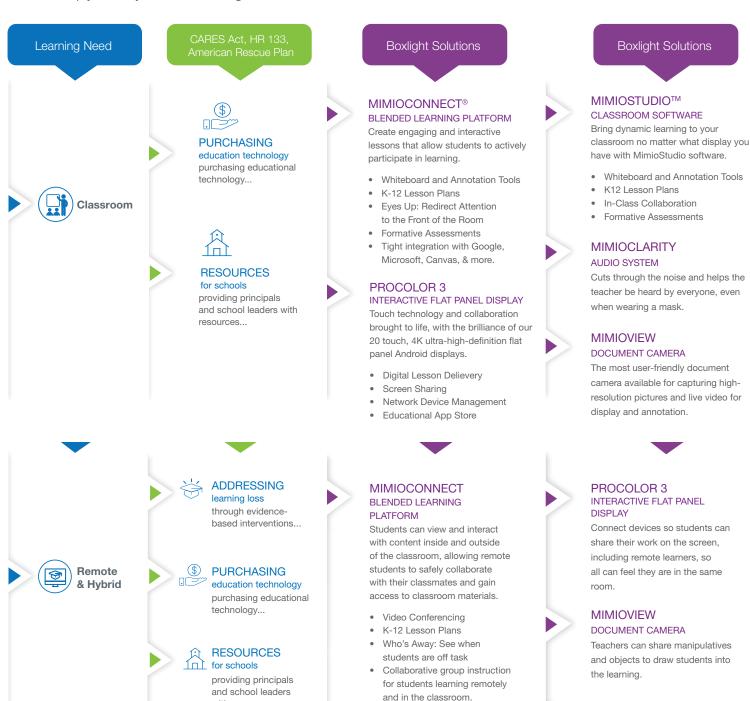
planning for,

closures...

coordinating, and implementing activities

durina lona-term school

The Boxlight mission is to support teachers in this changing educational scene by providing innovative and effective educational technology solutions, with the aim of improving learning and engagement in classrooms – whether in-class, remote, or hybrid. How can we help you with your federal funding decisions? Look at what we have to offer.



Independent Activities & Assignments

Progress in Real-Time

Party IWB lessons

Works with Existing Third

Tight integration with Google,

Microsoft, Canvas, & more.

Monitor Student

**MYSTEMKITS** 

students are!

VIRTUAL STEM LESSONS

Students can complete STEM

activities no matter where your

50 standards-driven lesson

Each virtual kit corresponds to a 3D-printable resource for hands-on learning

plans for grades K-12



STEM



#### **PURCHASING**

education technology purchasing educational technology...



#### **RESOURCES**

#### for schools

providing principals and school leaders with resources...

#### **MYSTEMKITS**

#### STEM & STEAM LESSONS

From ready-to-print 3D models, STEAM design challenges, and virtual STEM kits, to lesson plans for the MyBot robots and Labdisc portable sensors, MyStemKits has everything you need to get started using your MimioSTEM products right away.

- 350+ Standards-Driven Lesson Plans for Grades K-12
- Aligned to NGSS, Common Core, and State Standards

#### **ROBO**

**3D PRINTERS** 

Safe, simple, and smart 3D printers built for education.

- 3D printable STEM curriculum
- 2-hour Online Training and 3D Printing Certification



**EDUCATIONAL ROBOTICS SYSTEM** Engineering and coding prepares students for a multitude of 21st century careers.

- STEM Curriculum with Lessons and Coding Challenges
- Browser-Based Software
- 2-hour Online Training

#### **LABDISC**

#### PORTABLE STEM LAB

A STEM lab that can go anywhere, without complicated experiment

- MyStemKits curriculum
- 2-hour Online Training
- Bluetooth Capability
- Multi-platform GlobiLab Software



#### **Professional Development**



#### **ADDRESSING** learning loss

through evidencebased interventions...



#### **RESOURCES** for schools

providing principals and school leaders with resources...



#### **PLANNING** for closures

planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term school



closures...

#### **SUPPLEMENTAL** Learning

summer learning, and supplemental afterschool programs...



#### TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT INSTRUCTION OF SPECIFIC **GROUPS OF STUDENTS**

Teachers will learn best practices for using digital tools to differentiate their instruction not only through all parts of the teaching cycle but also by creating materials that are accessible to all

Focus: Learning Deficits ("COVID Learning loss")



This program will help teachers become familiar with the capabilities of all technologies they have access to in order to use them to increase student achievement.

Focus: ALL learning environments: traditional, remote, hybrid, and blended

#### SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION OF MIMIOCONNECT® FOR FLEXIBLE **INSTRUCTION**

This training will introduce the MimioConnect platform, explore applications for both the remote and hybrid classrooms.

Focus: Traditional, remote, hybrid, and blended learning environments

#### IMPROVE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

These sessions will show teachers how to increase engagement by amplifying student voice using digital tools.

Focus: Distance & hybrid education



Teachers will learn best practices for remote learning that will help teachers minimize the negative effects of students working from home. We also help teachers approach remote learning as an accelerator for a positive change, including instruction differentiation and personalization.

Focus: Online & remote learning

#### IMPLEMENTING EVIDENCE-BASED **ACTIVITIES AND INSTRUCTION**

This session will introduce teachers to the UDL Framework and show them how they can use digital tools to change the learning environment, provide accessibility tools, and create curriculum to meet the needs of all students-including those who are most at risk due to low-income, disability, language barriers, or unstable living conditions.

Focus: Meeting the comprehensive needs of students

#### CONNECTING PARENTS, FAMILY, AND STUDENTS

This training is designed to provide a common ground for schools and families and will provide school leaders with the tools to help reach families during distance learning.

Focus: Supporting students, including in a distance learning environment







## **Have Questions?**

Contact our team. www.boxlight.com













