

Educational Facilities (K-12) Applicant Briefing 12.03.20

Attendee	Question	Response
Jennifer Gonyea	can you repeat that? dissinfection does NOT apple to schools?	Prior to 9/15/20, FEMA allows a one-time cleaning in eligible public facilities. After 9/15/20, costs related to disinfection/decontamination are only eligible in facilities performing eligible emergency response activities.
Rick Reino	Does the PPE need to be used prior to Sept. 15th?	If the PPE is to be used with the disinfecting of the school buildings, that will be eligible in limited amounts, continual purchase of PPE will not be eligible, nor social distancing materials. EC: All cleaning and PPE provided for that must be completed prior to Sept. 15, 2020 UNLESS, you have had a confirmed or suspected case and need to reclean that classroom or office
Judy Townsend	Is the cost to fix the schools' HVAC systems eligible?	Unfortunately, this is likely ineligible for FEMA Public Assistance funding, since since schools are not performing emergency protective measures.
Karen Kruppa	Asymptomatic testing program for student and staff?	The only entity that has the authority to provide community based testing is the local municipality.
Eileen Reilly	How about COVID test purchase? Or HVAC items such as HVAC assessment or installation of air filter and window screens?	Unfortunately, this is likely ineligible for FEMA Public Assistance funding, since since schools are not performing emergency protective measures. The only entity that has the authority to provide community based testing is the local municipality.
Jennifer Gonyea	what about outside classrooms being built - more than tents, to keep students safe for learning and mask breaks - eligible?	These costs will most likely be ineligible.
Liana McLaren	We are a school and had a one time cleaning done in March and we purchased PPE in August is any of this eligible?	Prior to 9/15/20, FEMA allows a one-time cleaning in eligible public facilities. Unfortunately, PPEs are only eligible for facilities/individuals performing eligible COVID-19 emergency response activities.
Kara Lee	It is unreasonable to expect a school to separate their PPE inventory into what is used between confirmed/suspected cases versus the PPE used on a daily basis. The only reason we are using PPE is because there are "suspected" cases throughout the community on a regular and recurring basis.	Once your entity has applied for these costs, requests for information will be issued to ask specific questions regarding what the PPE was used for. We expect applicants to do their best when providing narratives on what supplies and materials were used for and under what circumstances. The operation of a school, even with changes necessitated by the COVID-19 environment, are not eligible because schools do not conduct immediate actions necessary to protect public health and safety. Funding for PPE, cloth facial coverings, disinfecting and temperature scanning for the regular operation of schools (and other public facilities) is also not eligible for reimbursement from FEMA.

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Jennifer Gonyea	does anyone know of any technology funding available to address remote learning for COVID?	FEMA coordinating funding stream tool helps identify available funding sources that cover expenses that are not eligible for FEMA Public Assistance. Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES) & Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds are potential sources to cover technology costs.
Avi	We put a request in mid-October. When should we expect a determination or other follow up?	FEMA is unable to provide a concrete determination timeline. There are 800 plus projects submitted in Grants Portal and MEMA/FEMA are diligently working to complete the reviews of all projects.
Kara Lee	Remote learning tech grant thru mass (but is federal funding) but I don't know when the grant application period expires??	MEMA only coordinates FEMA Public Assistance funding.
Avi	The challenge is that if FEMA won't cover costs we need to use CARES funds which expire 12/30 and that requires grant amendments. Might we hear by then?	Please email your assigned MEMA Project Coordinator a list of costs and they can prepare an eligibility evaluation email that typically is sufficient for the Executive Office of Administration & Finance.
Kara Lee	When submitting project were we supposed to get an email indicating project was submitted? I did not get an email and submitted last week	Freetown lakeville school district- You will not receive an email once the project application is submitted in Grants Portal. Your MEMA Project Coordinator will follow-up to provide a project status update.