

Make the Most of COVID-19 Response Funding Opportunities!

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David Jones: We just want to remind you there are funds that were specifically allocated to help Head Start programs recover from the pandemic and move toward full enrollment and in-person services. They include CARES Act, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, also known as CRRSA, and the American Rescue Plan, also known as ARP.

These funds can be used to provide competitive bonuses as a short-term strategy to recruit and retain staff; to support staff wellness efforts, such as providing dedicated staff space, enhancing benefits, and training on healthy lifestyle choices; upgrade facilities to provide a safer and healthier environment; and purchase or enhance outdoor learning spaces.

Under the reporting requirements of the Notice of Awards, grant recipients need to obligate these funds by March 31, 2023.

Remember, have a spend down plan for the use of these funds. Clearly articulate and justify the allowability, reasonableness, and the necessity for the use of these funds for program operations. Submit necessary budget revisions prior to the spending deadline. And when appropriate, submit a carryover request and contact your Regional Office for further instructions.

Don't miss out on available COVID-19 response funding opportunities. Thank you.