



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
**American Recovery  
and Reinvestment Act**



Questions and Answers regarding IDEA Recovery Funds  
Bureau of Special Education  
April 1, 2009

Points of Clarifications -

- IDEA Recovery Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011 and spent by December 31, 2011.

**When will we know our district allotments and how soon will the application be ready?**

The NHDOE is in the process of developing an application that will be available by April 13. The NHDOE will have calculated district allocations by April 13 and then districts will be informed.

One example for the use of funds was for a district to hire a Transition Coordinator. The question is one of concern as expressed about sustainability.

The district may want to initially pay for any new positions using IDEA Recovery Funds and then later fund these positions in their IDEA entitlement application or fund with local resources.

**Can these funds be used for Early Intervening Services (EIS)?**

Yes, up to 15% of the total of both IDEA Recovery Funds and Regular Entitlement award can be used for Early Intervening Services. EIS is to be used only for children who are not identified as needing special education and are experiencing academic and/or behavioral difficulties in grades K-12. Early Intervening Services are now being referred as Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS).

**What is the follow-up expectation on student achievement for these funds?**

Districts will have a reporting obligation per the guidance of the New Hampshire Office of Economic Stimulus (OES). The NHDOE will be developing a reporting form.

**I understand that there will be an application for IDEA Recovery Funds this spring and another application in the fall. Can the same activity be in both applications?**

Yes, you can have the same activity in both applications.

**Can we purchase computers for the school computer lab that all students use including students with IEPs?**

No, IDEA Recovery funds have the same requirements for purchasing equipment as the IDEA entitlement funds. Any equipment purchases must be clearly identified in your IDEA Recovery Fund application for NHDOE approval. IDEA Recovery funds must be used specifically for students with IEPs. You are able to purchase computers for a specific student with an IEP. You could also purchase a mobile computer cart with 10 laptop computers that could be used by a group of students with IEPs.

You could also purchase computers for teachers of special education students to use for case management.

**Can IDEA Recovery Funds be used to rent space?**

Yes, IDEA Recovery Funds can be used to rent space providing that the space is to used for students with IEPs.

**Can a district purchase a vehicle with IDEA Recovery Funds?**

IDEA Recovery funds have the same requirements for purchasing or leasing equipment as the IDEA entitlement funds. Any equipment purchases or leasing must be clearly identified in your IDEA Recovery Funds application for NHDOE approval. NHDOE approval for vehicle purchasing or leasing will be considered on a case by case basis. You may use IDEA Recovery Funds to contract with a transportation provider to transport only students with IEPs.

All information is the best available as of April 1, 2009 and is subject to change.