

Examples of Actual Uses for EANS Funds

The 12 allowable uses for EANS funds ([see official list here](#)) are open to interpretation. School principals should review this list of uses for their actual applicability to your school's needs. This will help you determine the usefulness of EANS vs PPP.

To help you drill into the possible uses of EANS funds, WCRIS provides the following concrete examples of how the categories might be used. Under allowable use item letter:

C) Consider using the funds for: Portable HEPPA filters for every classroom; the cafeteria, library, school office, computer and science labs;

F) Consider using the funds for: To-go containers to package lunches for sending to classrooms so students study and eat in one place to minimize movement through the building;

G) Consider: hiring a school nurse or contact tracer. Has to be an employee of the funding agency and not someone already on your staff doing the work. But if hiring this person frees up your existing staff for other things, that's fine.

H) Consider: specialized software to enhance on-line instruction that was out of reach before or has since been identified by a teacher; or laptops, or mobile hot spots.

Note for H: These items cannot be used for religious instruction or worship. There is some understanding by DPI that brushes with religion through incidental encounters in a math or reading class, for example, are acceptable uses. The "religious use" question was handled the same for the ESSER funding with the "understanding" that there would be "secondary exposure" to religious material i.e. through curriculum that used religion in some way, like a math curriculum that used bible examples in story problems or a reading program that uses scripture.

However, federal law prohibits the use of federal funding for the purchase of any material, supply or device that will be used for any religious purpose.

J) Consider: Renting a mobile classroom trailer for creating more learning space in your parking lot or campus green space; leasing the church fellowship hall, conference rooms, or even the church sanctuary to expand your school's classroom space for physical distancing.

K) Consider: seeking reimbursement for transportation costs to get your kids to school on time because of the public district staggered bus routes. Consider private taxi services, Uber, and Lyft to move children safely.

Note for K: These are costs your school would incur because the public district won't provide transportation above and beyond what the state law requires. This should not cover what the school district is already obligated to provide under state law. For example, if CESAs are designated by the state as the fiscal agent for EANS funds, ask the CESA if they will develop parent contracts for transportation services. The CESA would then pay the parent for

transportation the district can't/won't provide because it's beyond what the district would do for the public school students.

L) Consider classroom staff monitors. These staff would be on the funding agent's payroll, not your school's payroll, and would be in addition to your existing staff. You can't use this money to pay people you already employ, unless it's outside the hours they normally work.

As you consider which program to utilize, it is important to remember that items purchased with EANS funds are property of the state. These items would have to be cataloged and tracked in the event that the state asks for them back. Some items like small electronic devices, bags, and other take home items may be difficult to track.

Note: These examples are theoretical and subject to final interpretation of the law and may change. This document is not legal or financial advice. Questions regarding the use of EANS funds should be addressed with your school's legal counsel, or accountant, and reviewed alongside official guidance from the US Department of Education or the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.