



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 1, 2022

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Delsa D. Chapman, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent   
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** Public Act 144 of 2022 – Section 98c – Learning Loss

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will open the application window on September 15, 2022, for local education agencies (LEAs), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs), to apply for Section 98c funds to address learning loss. These funds were made available through [Public Act \(PA\) 144 of 2022 \(MCL 388.1698c\)](#), which was signed into law on July 14, 2022, by Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

Section 98c appropriates \$52,056,000 in federal funding to address learning loss as part of the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund and part of the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II Fund. This memorandum outlines the requirements of section 98c, addresses the purpose of the funds, and outlines how funding will be determined.

To be eligible for funding in section 98c, LEAs must apply to MDE no later than November 30, 2022. Eligible entities must include the following in their application:

- An assurance that by not later than October 30, 2022, at a public meeting of the board of an LEA, a presentation is provided on how funding received under section 98c will be used to address learning loss.
- A link to the plan to address learning loss that is posted on the LEA's website and an assurance to post updates to the plan on the LEA's website.
- A brief description of the district metrics to be used to determine the impact of the district's funded initiatives.

MDE will collect statutorily required reports from LEAs to submit on LEAs' behalf to the state legislature by August 15, 2023. LEAs receiving section 98c funding will need to provide a report to MDE by July 14, 2023 on how the funds were spent so MDE can

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compile the information into a single legislative report. The report submitted by LEAs to MDE must detail the funds spent; services provided; number of students reached; metrics used to measure outcomes; and the impact on student learning loss. Any funds distributed will be recaptured if the district does not submit a report by the deadline date.

ESSER II funds are to address learning loss among students of the LEA, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care by:

- Administering high-quality, reliable assessments that can assess student academic progress and assist educators in meeting student needs, including by differentiating instruction.
- Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students.
- Providing information and assistance to parents and families on ways to support students.
- Tracking student performance and engagement in distance learning.

Section 98c funding will be distributed to each LEA in an equal amount by per pupil in membership. After the application window closes on November 30, MDE will calculate the per pupil amount, and it is anticipated that funds will be disbursed to LEAs in the early winter state school aid payments. The application for section 98c will open on Thursday, September 15, 2022, at the following link:

<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gems/public/QuestionnaireHome.aspx?code=i4d1tcbt>.

MDE will offer a section 98c [technical assistance meeting](#) at 2:30 p.m. (EST) on September 19, 2022, to discuss and further clarify requirements, and a [technical assistance meeting](#) at 11:00 a.m. (EST) on November 4, 2022, to further support districts in completing the application.

For questions regarding the 98c application, please email [mde-gems@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-gems@michigan.gov). Questions regarding addressing learning loss may be directed to Ruth Anne Hodges, [hodgesr3@michigan.gov](mailto:hodgesr3@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments