Q&A Session for FEMA Funding & Cal OES - What we Know Now and How to Track Costs

Session Number: 206368108
Date: 2020-5-28
Starting time: 10:31

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Melissa Elwood (Guest)(melwood@riversideunified.org) - 11:07
Q: We had expenditures related to printing of educational materials for students to use at home for distance education. Would that qualify?
A: No, you should contact the County or Office of Education. They may have funding for this, such as the CARES Act.

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Samuel Blanton (Guest)(blanton.samuel@lusd.org) - 11:07
Q: Would special ed be considered medical care? Re-doing IEPs? (which are Individual Educational Plans that we use with special needs students to define their required ed/care plan)
A: No, same suggestion as above.

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James Lopez (Guest)(jlopez@thermalito.org) - 11:08
Q: Will Hand sanitizing stations and refills be eligible?
A: Yes, this may be eligible if reasonable and necessary due to COVID.

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Sai Vang (Guest)(svang@collegeofthedesert.edu) - 11:11
Q: Is the printing of CDC posters to inform students and employees to wash hands an eligible expense?
A: Yes. Providing critical and necessary information to the public at large can be an eligible expense if it can be supported to protect the health and safety of individuals. If you feel this is the case, make the claim.

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LYNN ADAMS (Guest)(ladams@uusd.net) - 11:11
Q: ARE THE SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR REMOTE LEARNING REIMBURSEABLE? SUCH AS HOT SPOTS, CHROMEBOOKS ETC?
        -Joanne Branch (Guest) - 11:12
        A: No. This is also made clear in the CalOES online Q&A

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James Lopez (Guest)(jlopez@thermalito.org) - 11:12
Q: Will additional custodial staff to keep up with the workload of protecting the health and safety of staff and students be eligible?
A: Yes, this should be eligible. Remember it has to be reasonable and necessary.

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Mark P (Guest)(mpong@dmusd.org) - 11:13
Q: What type of documentation should we be keeping?
A: As much as possible; invoices, time sheets, daily logs, contracts, materials, equipment, etc. Everything to support your claim.

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Biling Yang (Guest)(nyang@campbellusd.org) - 11:13
Q: Can we submit multiple claims at different times?
A: You will be submitting all your claims with a Streamlined Application through Grants Portal. Your Application will include actuals and estimated cost for up to 90 days. If you feel you need more then one Application, please work with your State/FEMA representative for guidance and suggestions.

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Peter Laub (Guest)(peter@edtec.com) - 11:16
Q: What is the threshold of expense per item at which schools need to get bids? For items like PPE, can you just shop around and find a good price?
A: Please send your procurement question to paprocurement@caloes.ca.gov

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April Juarez (Guest)(ajuarez@lodiusd.net) - 11:16
Q: How about expenditures related to preparing our schools facilities for re-opening?
A: No, you should contact the County or Office of Education. They may have funding for this, such as the CARES Act.

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Deb Manna (Guest)(debbie.manna@morongo.k12.ca.us) - 11:17
Q: In regards to the Streamlined Project Application - We have ongoing PPE purchases happening. Can I submit more than one app for these types of reimbursements or should I hold off until the last 60 days prior to deadline?
A: You will be submitting all your claims with a Streamlined Application through Grants Portal. Your Application will include actuals and estimated cost for up to 90 days. If you feel you need more then one Application, please work with your State/FEMA representative for guidance and suggestions.

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Marci Laffranchi (Guest)(mlaffranchi@pacificunionschool.org) - 11:18
Q: Would plexi glass protective barriers and thermometers be reimbursable
A: Currently FEMA is saying no, however we would suggest collecting these cost and submit the claim. You will want to make the argument that it is necessary and reasonable.

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Stephanie Morris (Guest)(smorris@keyes.k12.ca.us) - 11:19
Q: I have already filed the RPA, what is the deadline for submitting the project?
A: 60 days from the end of the Health Emergency or approval of the RPA, whichever is later.

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Celeste Calubaquib (Guest)(ccalubaquib@losal.org) - 11:19
Q: So only time other than regular work hours is valid for a claim?
A: Correct, only OT is eligible for your budgeted staff.

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Kristy Rodriguez (Guest)(krodriguez@vesd.net) - 11:20
Q: Help me understand, why are chromebboks and hotspots not an expediture for funding through FEMA when because of the pandemeic and keeping students healthy and safe we were forced to purchase chromebooks and hotspots to support learning?
A:
        -Joanne Branch (Guest) - 11:26
        A: See CARES act funding through the County or Dept. of Education. The CARES ACT has set aside funding for this.

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Deb Manna (Guest)(debbie.manna@morongo.k12.ca.us) - 11:21
Q: and is the Materials Summary Record all we need to track in regards to FEMA funding
A: The summary is fine, but also upload all invoices in Grants Portal.

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Kris Knapp (Guest)(kknapp@rjuhsd.us) - 11:21
Q: Would construction cost increases be covered if related to COVID?
A: Please provide more information to disasterrecovery@caloes.ca.gov

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James Lopez (Guest)(jlopez@thermalito.org) - 11:27
Q: If we need to hold to social distancing requirements, will additional classrooms, teachers, aids be eligible?
A: No, The County or Dept. of Education may be able to assist.

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Melissa Greenwood (Guest)(melissa_greenwood@myfsd.org) - 11:27
Q: Since we can't use FEMA until CARES is spent (and no double dipping), we would need to wait until we get and completely spend the CARES funding, right?
A:

      -Joanne Branch (Guest) - 11:29

      A: You can use both. Just needs strategy. If able, use all CARES Act funding on work that is not covered by FEMA.

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Sheldon Smith (Guest)(sheldonksmith@gmail.com) - 11:28
Q: The presentation archive link will be emailed to the email addresses used when you registered.
A: Yes

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Frances Ufondu (Guest)(fiufondu@palmdalesd.org) - 11:27
Q: Could you share a sample of established coding system for a district, to give us an idea.
A: *Lettie can answer…*

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Celeste Calubaquib (Guest)(ccalubaquib@losal.org) - 11:27
Q: Is it only expenses for FEMA or are loss revenues considered? Thanks.
A: Loss of revenue is not eligible. CARES Act may be able to help.

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James Lopez (Guest)(jlopez@thermalito.org) - 11:28
Q: If we have to hold to social distancing on a bus, will the cost of additional buses on the road be eligable?
A: No

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William Wong (Guest)(wong_w@sgusd.k12.ca.us) - 11:30
Q: Are the Applicant's Briefings recorded?
A: Yes, and on the Cal OES webpage.

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Jennie Bruneman (Guest)(jbruneman.do@wscuhsd.k12.ca.us) - 11:30
Q: are the applicant briefings available to watch after the fact?
A: Yes, and on the Cal OES webpage.

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Karineh Savarani (Guest)(karinehsavarani@gusd.net) - 11:30
Q: I just heard that we need to do RPA for each project is that correct? I thought it is just one for the event (COVID-19)
A: Only one RPA per applicant. Do not mix up RPAs with Streamlined Applications.

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Michelle Kelly (Guest)(mkelly@tolmanandwiker.com) - 11:30
Q: How do you define current for the authorized agent form?
A: Please check with Grants Processing at 916-845-8110 to see if you have a current Authorized Agent form.

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Michelle Kelly (Guest)(mkelly@tolmanandwiker.com) - 11:31
Q: What about school lunches where the cost is in excess of the general program, additional supplies for packaging?
A: No, you should contact the County or Office of Education. They may have funding for this, such as the CARES Act.

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Anthony Nahale (Guest)(anahale@nlmusd.k12.ca.us) - 11:32
Q: Are meals provided to students during the school shutdown reimbursable?
A: No, you should contact the County or Office of Education. They may have funding for this, such as the CARES Act.

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Christine Levandowski (Guest)(christine.levandowsk@lmsvschools.org) - 11:32
Q: Can FEMA reimburse uncovered community meals served through the school Child Nutrition program? Not all expenses for this program are covered by the state. Can FEMA reimburse the difference?
A: No, you should contact the County or Office of Education. They may have funding for this, such as the CARES Act.