

# SCSF COVID-19 Relief Fund



## Fund Description

The SCSF COVID-19 Relief Fund was established to help state charter schools meet their most urgent needs during the 2020 pandemic. The fund will be used to support the following needs in the order presented:

1. Electronic devices for low-income students to engage in distance learning
2. Internet access for low-income students to engage in distance learning
3. Remote one-on-one tutoring for at-risk students to support continued academic growth/retention of academic progress achieved this school year

## School Eligibility

All state charter schools that typically provide in-person instruction and are transitioning/have transitioned to distance learning instruction for the 2019-20 school year are eligible for funding through the SCSF COVID-19 Relief Fund. Grant awards will be made based on need, timeliness of application, and fund availability.

## Requirements

### Electronic Devices & Internet Access

Grant funds for electronic devices are intended to support distance learning for low-income students who do not have access to an appropriate electronic device. Grants for Internet access can include the cost of a hotspot, Internet home connection/router, and up to three months of service fees.

- Submit a plan for distributing devices (laptops, Chromebooks, tablets, or hotspots) including prioritization based on student need and logistics for distribution
- Verify that all appropriate available school devices have been deployed and loaned to students
- Submit a plan for preparing and maintaining devices, including completion of a user agreement by families
- Describe how parents and students will be instructed on using the devices and/or accessing the Internet
- Verify that distance learning will continue for at least six (6) weeks
- Provide verification of purchase of devices and/or payment for Internet services
- Provide list of students (using student initials and grade)
- Provide 2-4 photos of students accessing distance learning and/or distribution of devices (see release attached)

### Low-Income Determination

Schools may determine eligibility of a student as “low-income” through one of the two following methods:

1. Existing documentation of verification of eligibility for Free or Reduced Lunch and/or verification of homelessness, foster, or migrant status and/or documentation of family participation in SNAP or TANF programs **OR**
2. A self-certification form signed by a parent/guardian that the total income of the family is equal to or below the low-income level as established by HUD. Schools should recognize that the economic situation of families is changing rapidly during this crisis, and it is probable that more students meet the definition of “low-income” now than Fall 2019. (HUD limits: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2020/2020summary.odn>)

### Income Limits by Number of Family Members – Metro Atlanta

FY 2020 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income <b>Explanation</b>	FY 2020 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA HUD Metro FMR Area	\$82,700	Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$) <b>Explanation</b>	28,950	33,100	37,250	<b>41,350</b>	44,700	48,000	51,300	54,600
		Extremely Low Income Limits (\$)* <b>Explanation</b>	17,400	19,850	22,350	<b>26,200</b>	30,680	35,160	39,640	44,120
		Low (80%) Income Limits (\$) <b>Explanation</b>	46,350	52,950	59,550	<b>66,150</b>	71,450	76,750	82,050	87,350

*Income Limits by Number of Family Members - Outside of Metro Atlanta*

FY 2020 Low-Income (80%) Limit (LIL)							
1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
40,450	46,200	52,000	57,750	62,400	67,000	71,600	76,250

**Remote Tutoring**

Grant funds for remote tutoring are intended to support the academic achievement/progress/retention of academically “at-risk” students

- Submit a plan for determining target students based on previously-conducted benchmark testing and/or teacher data
- Agree to work in coordination with the tutoring service provider, developing a process for determining effectiveness and tracking attendance
- Submit a plan for coordinating with students and families
- Agree to provide tutoring for at least six (6) weeks, which may occur during the summer
- Provide verification of contract and/or payment for tutoring services
- Provide list of students (using student initials, grade, and eligibility category)
- Provide aggregate data of student progress
- Provide 2-4 photos of students accessing remote tutoring (see release attached)

**At-Risk Determination**

Students may be determined eligible for remote tutoring and considered academically “at-risk” if the student meets one of the following criteria:

1. Currently receiving EIP (intervention) services, remedial education, and/or Special Education and related services **OR**
2. Identified for consideration for intervention or remedial services through RTI or informal processes, including teacher referral and/or grades and/or benchmark assessments **OR**
3. Referred for evaluation for Special Education and related services **OR**
4. Identified as “at-risk” due to other hardship

**Tutoring Requirements**

Schools may utilize the tutoring services provider of their choice, as long as the provider can offer tutoring services remotely, adhering to all orders for “sheltering in place,” “social distancing,” etc. put in place by the State of Georgia, United States, and/or local governments as appropriate. Schools must ensure that any provider of tutoring services is qualified and has the ability to assess student progress. The SCSF has negotiated a rate for state charter schools with a remote tutoring provider recognized as a Level II effective intervention (based on ESSA requirements) that schools may elect to use. Schools may use teachers for remote tutoring, as long as they can verify that tutoring hours are over and above those hours and responsibilities detailed in current teaching contracts and that teachers are fulfilling the requirements for both existing contracts and contracts for tutoring.

**Notes**

1. Schools may request funding in more than one category, but the SCSF encourages schools to request only what they need to serve students and consider any funding or resources received from other sources.
2. Expenses incurred for the purchase of electronic devices for distance learning, Internet access to facilitate distance learning, and/or remote tutoring (over and above typical salary expenses) since April 3, 2020 may be considered eligible expenses. Please email [grants@scsfga.org](mailto:grants@scsfga.org) for verification of eligibility of expenses. All funds must be expended by July 1, 2020.
3. Schools receiving grant funds must submit a final report by July 15, 2020. A template will be provided.
4. Any recognition of the grant should be acknowledged as the “State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia COVID-19 Relief Fund” and any Facebook posts should tag @statecharterschoolsfoundationGA. The hashtag #SchoolsOutLearningContinues may be used as well.
5. Please submit photos to [grants@scsfga.org](mailto:grants@scsfga.org). Donors will appreciate seeing that their funds were put to good use!



## Self-Certification of Income

I hereby certify that my family's total income is equal to or lower than the amount listed below based on the number of family members who live/stay in my home at this current time. I understand that my child(ren) is/are receiving technology device(s) and/or access to the Internet based on this information and his/her/their need to access distance learning during school closure.

<b>School Name</b>	
<b>Student Name(s)</b>	
<b>Parent/Guardian Name</b>	

*Please circle the number of members of your household.*

<b>Number of persons in your household/family</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
Metro Atlanta	\$46,350	\$52,950	\$59,550	\$66,150	\$71,450	\$76,750	\$82,050	\$87,350
Outside of Metro Atlanta	\$40,450	\$46,200	\$52,000	\$57,750	\$62,400	\$67,000	\$71,600	\$76,250

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Financial support for electronic devices and Internet access provided by the State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia. For more information, please see [www.scsfqa.org](http://www.scsfqa.org).*



## Publicity Release

I hereby grant permission for my child's school and the State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia to use or publicly display my/my child's photograph, video, audio, video clip, and first name on the website, social media account, and/or publication of the school, State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia, State Charter Schools Commission, and other entities who have served as donors to the SCSF COVID-19 Relief Fund. I understand that any such image may be cropped or otherwise edited for image quality only. I further understand that images may be re-published by third party entities.

The purpose of all student/family images is to provide evidence of the use of grant funds and provide an opportunity to thank and encourage the support of donors for state charter schools. Thank you for your help!

<b>School Name</b>	
<b>Student Name(s)</b>	
<b>Parent/Guardian Name</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Financial support for distance learning provided by the State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia. For more information, please see [www.scsfga.org](http://www.scsfga.org).*



## Vendor Resources for Distance Learning

*The SCSF is providing this list for the convenience of grant recipients. The SCSF does not endorse or recommend any of the products, services, or vendors listed. The SCSF is receiving no special consideration from any vendor listed.*

### Electronic Devices

**Notes:** It may be difficult to find supply of electronic devices, and vendors are typically requiring payment up front. If you can find something that will work, you should plan to purchase it quickly. Local vendors with an interest in your school may be a good choice.

- **BuyQ**, charter school buying organization (can connect you to vendors), Marco Rafanelli, CEO, [mrafanelli@buyq.org](mailto:mrafanelli@buyq.org), [www.buyq.org](http://www.buyq.org)
- **CDW-G**, Morgan Majetic, K-12 Account Rep., 312-547-2939, [morgmaj@cdwg.com](mailto:morgmaj@cdwg.com)
- **Cpak Technology Solutions** (under state contract), Christin Lepore, 706-298-0849, [clepore@cpak.com](mailto:clepore@cpak.com)

### Internet Access & Cell-Enabled Devices

**Notes:** Vendors are having a difficult time supplying hotspots and may offer re-purposed cell phones as hotspots. They can also offer cell-enabled tablets, Chromebooks, and laptops. They may give you hotspots for free.

- **T-Mobile** (merging with Sprint), Matthew Goldberg, Senior Account Rep, 470-402-9702, [matthew.goldberg@sprint.com](mailto:matthew.goldberg@sprint.com) OR Steven Anderson, Government Rep. for GA, 404-617-1188, [Steven.Anderson146@t-mobile.com](mailto:Steven.Anderson146@t-mobile.com) – ask about EmpowerED program
- **Verizon**, Alison King, Education Account Manager, 404-548-7056, [alison.king@verizonwireless.com](mailto:alison.king@verizonwireless.com) or [rachael.bridge@verizonwireless.com](mailto:rachael.bridge@verizonwireless.com)
- **New Life Technology Group** (nonprofit with refurbished, LOW-cost devices), Leah Murphy, Event Coordinator, 770-356-9529, [lmurphy@newlifetechgroup.com](mailto:lmurphy@newlifetechgroup.com), <https://www.newlifetechgroup.com/>

### Remote Tutoring

- **FEV Tutor**, Jerold Bryant, 404-563-9665, [GA@fevtutor.com](mailto:GA@fevtutor.com), [www.fevtutor.com](http://www.fevtutor.com), offering discounted rate of \$22/hour (typically \$25/hour) for state charter schools through August 1<sup>st</sup>  
Webinar demo for State Charter Schools on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. The link will be provided to all schools.