



**#010-22**

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Education  
Superintendent's Memo #010-22**

DATE: January 14, 2022  
TO: Division Superintendents  
FROM: Rosa S. Atkins, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction  
SUBJECT: **U.S. Department of Education Issues Two New Documents on the Uses of  
Pandemic Relief Funds**

Last month, the U.S. Department of Education issued two new documents on the uses of federal pandemic relief funds:

- A December 16, 2021 [Dear Colleague Letter](#) provides information on how American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds can be used to address teacher and staff shortages.
- A December 29, 2021 [COVID Connection Fact Sheet](#) provides clarification about and examples for what it means for ESSER and Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funds to "prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic."

**For more information**

Questions about the uses of ESSER or GEER funds should be directed to  
[VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov).

RSA/LS