



Updated 5-18-21

Frequently Asked Questions CRSSA Act - GEER II Gap Program Expansion Funds

Q1. Is there a deadline to apply for GEER II funds?

Yes. The application deadline is Sunday, May 30, 2021 by 4:30 p.m. The application information will be available May 1, 2021.

Q2. May all community colleges apply for GEER II Funds to expand their Gap programs?

Yes. All Iowa community colleges are eligible to apply; each college may submit only one application.

Q3. How long do colleges have to spend the GEER II Gap Program Expansion funds?

Sept. 30, 2023. The spending window for GEER II funds begins retroactively on March 13, 2020 and will close on Sept. 30, 2023.

Q4. Will these funds be distributed on a lump sum or reimbursement basis?

GEER II funds will be distributed on a reimbursement basis. Iowa community colleges will receive information on how to submit for reimbursement of eligible expenses along with their award notification after the application deadline.

Q5. What documentation do I need to submit for claims reimbursement?

General ledger detail, invoices and receipts showing payment date, and spreadsheets applicable to the program's costs.

Q6. What short-term credit programs qualify for GEER II Gap dollars?

In addition to the noncredit Gap Tuition Assistance approved programs ([link to program listing](#)), short-term credit programs, as determined to be high-demand and not Pell-eligible, qualify for GEER II Gap expansion funding.

Q7. What is the timeline for GEER II Gap Program Expansion Fund grant award notifications?

Within three weeks after the application deadline. Institutions that are approved to receive funding will receive notification within three weeks after the May 30, 2021 application deadline. Information on how to submit claims for reimbursement through Iowa Grants will also be sent at that time.

Q8. What expenses qualify for wrap-around personal support?

All wrap-around support assistance related to short-term training will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis but may include support for students such as:

- childcare while in training
- transportation assistance to and from training
- equipment/uniform/shoes for occupation related to training

Q9. What additional reporting is required annually?

Each college will be required to submit detailed expenditures on a quarterly basis through IowaGrants.gov and report the number of students served by the GEER II Gap expansion fund through the WebMIS at the end of each academic year.

Q10. Are high school students eligible to enroll in GEER II Gap expansion grant identified programs?

Yes. If a student is eligible to enroll in the program, they are eligible to qualify for GEER II Gap tuition assistance.

Q11. Are colleges required to have students complete an entry assessment to access GEER II Gap expansion grant funds?

No. A college does not need to require an assessment to be completed by a student in order to qualify for receipt of the GEER II Gap expansion assistance.

Q12. Who can I contact with any additional questions?

Questions may be directed to either Paula Nissen (paula.nissen2@iowa.gov) or Mike Williams (mike.williams@iowa.gov). For claims or IowaGrants.gov assistance, contact Jeffrey Fletcher (jeffrey.fletcher@iowa.gov).