



November 4, 2020

Hello! The purpose of this communication is to alert all Clare-Gladwin RESD staff members of the availability of **COVID-19 Grants (Hazard Pay) for K-12 Teachers and K-12 “School Support” staff through the Department of Treasury**. The guidelines for the Hazard Pay were outlined by legislation passed earlier this fall. The Department of Treasury developed a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document that further clarifies the legislated guidelines. Please note CGRESD had no input regarding the guidelines.

There are two COVID-19 Hazard Pay grants, one for K-12 Teachers and one for K-12 “School Support” staff. Teachers are eligible for up to \$500, and “School Support” staff are eligible for up to \$250. There is a pot of money allocated for each, and the total amount allocated will be divided equally among all of those in the state who qualify and then submit a certification form within the established deadline. Checks will be mailed by the Department of Treasury to home addresses in late February/early March. (Please note the amount of the check will be prorated if you work less than full-time.)

It’s important to note, for these grants, the definition of K-12 “School Support” staff includes several members of our MEA and AFT unions, several non-union employees, and some contracted employees. Staff who work with preschoolers do not qualify for either grant, nor do administrators. Substitutes don’t qualify for either grant. We have posed questions regarding Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and SPARKS staff and hope to get answers soon regarding whether they qualify and for which grant. When we have more information, we’ll email those folks individually ASAP.

Teacher COVID-19 Grant of up to \$500 - In general, who qualifies?

Staff who worked “regularly and continuously” prior to April 2, 2020 and through the rest of the 2019-2020 school year and fall into one of the categories below...

- Area School Teachers
- CTE Teachers

School Support COVID-19 Grant of up to \$250 - In general, who qualifies?

Staff who worked “regularly and continuously” prior to April 2, 2020 and through the rest of the 2019-2020 school year and fall into one of the categories below...

- Area School Paraeducators
- CTE Paraeducators
- Administrative Assistants who contributed to K-12 learning/programs last spring
- Dean Transportation Drivers
- Technology Staff
- School Social Workers
- School Psychologists
- School Counselors
- Speech Therapists
- Early Literacy Coaches

- Custodians

Who doesn't qualify for either grant?

- Staff who worked on an intermittent or sporadic basis or didn't work prior to April 2, 2020
- Staff who work with preschool children or preschool programs
- Administrative Assistants who didn't contribute to K-12 learning/programs last spring
- Pupil Accounting Staff
- Substitutes
- Administrators

If you qualify, you will receive an email from Holly with a certification form to complete no later than Monday, November 9. By completing the form, **you are certifying that you “worked additional time outside of normal working hours, experienced hazardous conditions, or incurred additional costs related to ensuring students could effectively participate in their school’s continuity of learning plan for the 2019-2020 school year.”** If you don't feel you met at least one of the criteria above in bold, then you shouldn't certify and should not return the form. We have no ability to determine who should and shouldn't certify; this is completely based on the honor system, and we will rely on everyone's good character and honesty.

It is essential that you fill out the certification form completely and legibly and return it to Holly no later than Friday, December 4. It can be emailed to her at hresseguie@cgresd.net or you can send it to her via interschool mail. ***There are no exceptions to this deadline.*** We have to input information from your form and upload the completed file to the Department of Treasury no later than December 16.

If you don't qualify and don't receive an email from Holly with a certification form to complete, you will receive a separate email from me with directions regarding how you can appeal your qualification status. Appeals will go to me, and I will reference the FAQs along with any additional information I receive on the grants to support my decision about who qualifies and who doesn't.

I appreciate everyone's patience as we work through this process, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Enjoy your day!

Sheryl

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