

21.027

STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND

State Project/Program: ARP – STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND – SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PILOT PROGRAM (PRC 0140)

U. S. Department of Education

Federal Authorization: The Elementary and Secondary School (K-12) Emergency Relief Fund, authorized by Section 2001 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 is intended to assist eligible public school units during and after the coronavirus pandemic.

State Authorization: SL 2021-180 Section 7.70(a) and (b)
SL 2021-180 Section 39.2
SL 2021-189 section 8.1
SL 2021-180 Part VII
NC Department of Public Instruction

Agency Contact Person

Program

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Program (PRC 140)

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N.C. DPI Confirmation Reports:

Confirmation of Funds Expended and/or Disbursed from the State Public School Fund and Federal Programs 2024-25 will be available at <https://dart.schoolbusiness.ncdpi.gov/>. The system provides an electronic view of Year to-Date (YTD) financial reports in response to requests for confirmation from independent auditors.

Financial

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The auditor should not consider the Supplement to be “safe harbor” for identifying audit procedures to apply in a particular engagement, but the auditor should be prepared to justify departures from the suggested procedures. The auditor can consider the supplement a “safe harbor” for identification of compliance requirements to be tested if the auditor performs reasonable procedures to ensure that the requirements in the Supplement are current.

The grantor agency may elect to review audit working papers to determine that audit tests are adequate.

Auditors may request documentation of monitoring visits by the State Agencies.

This compliance supplement must be used in conjunction with the OMB 2025 Compliance Supplement which will be issued in the summer. This includes “Part 3 - Compliance Requirements,” for the types that apply, “Part 6 - Internal Control,” and “Part 4 - Agency Program” requirements if the Agency issued guidance for a specific program. The OMB Compliance Supplement is Section A of the State Compliance Supplement.

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I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Section 7.70 of S.L. 2021-180, as amended by section 2.7 of S.L. 2022-6, directs the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to establish the 2021 Smart School Bus Safety Pilot Program (PRC 140) beginning with the 2021-2022 school year and ending on or before January 1, 2025. The Program is designed to improve the transportation of public school students through technology in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Note: Funds are awarded directly to the State of North Carolina by the U.S. Department of Education and are not State issued but are Federal funds subject to all federal statutes and guidance regarding the expenditure of federal awards. Additionally, these funds are subject to all federal audit and reporting requirements.

II. PROGRAM PROCEDURES

PRC 0140 funding will be allotted based on the amounts for each authorized public school units as ratified in SL 2021-180 Section 7.70(b) ([SL 2021-180 \(SB 105\) \(ncleg.gov\)](#)). Funds shall be used to contract with qualifying vendors to provide technology and services for student transportation.

See the following link for the LEAs and charter schools that shall receive funds under PRC 140. <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/documents/fbs/allotments/covid-manual-fy-2020-24pdf-0/download?attachment>

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III. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Noted below in the following matrix are the types of compliance requirements (Types) that are applicable to the federal program. These Types are either determined by the federal agency or the State Agency may have added the Type. This is noted by “Y.” If the State determines that the federal requirement does not apply at the local level or if the State modifies the federal requirements, this is discussed in the supplement under the type of compliance requirement. If the federal and/or State agencies have determined that the type is not applicable, this is indicated by “N.”

If the Type is applicable, the auditor must determine if the Type has a direct and material effect on the federal program for the auditee. The auditor must use the OMB 2025 Compliance Supplement, Part 3 and Part 4 (if an OMB supplement is issued) in addition to this State supplement to perform the audit.

CC	A	B	C	E	F	G	H	I	J	L	M	N
Cross Cutting Requirements	Activities Allowed or Unallowed	Allowable Costs/ Cost Principles	Cash Management	Eligibility	Equipment/ Real Property Management	Matching, Level of Effort, Earmarking	Period of Performance	Procurement Suspension & Debarment	Program Income	Reporting	Subrecipient Monitoring	Special Tests and Provisions
Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y

A. Activities Allowed or Unallowed

Compliance Requirement - Funds may be used by an LEA only in accordance with State and Federal laws, regulations and policies, and only for those services or activities included in its project application for grant funds.

Audit Objective - To determine that expenditures are allowable.

Suggested Audit Procedures –

- Obtain a copy of the Budget Balance Reconciliation Report from the finance officer and compare to local accounting records for conformity.
- Review a sample of expenditures to determine that expenditures are in accordance with the plan described in the grant application, if one was required.
- Test a sample of expenditures and related records to determine if expenditures were made only for those services or activities allowed.

B. Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

Compliance Requirement –

Allowable cost include:

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- PRC 0140 – Funds shall only be used to contract with qualifying vendors to provide technology and services to modernize the transportation of public school students.

Audit Objective - To determine costs are allowable.

Suggested Audit Procedures - Test expenditures and related records to ensure expenditures are in alignment with cost principles of Subpart E of the Uniform Guidance including determining if costs are:

- Approved and supported with adequate documentation;
- in compliance with the allowable activities and costs as defined by the corresponding PRC;
- reasonable as defined in Uniform Guidance 200.404; and
- allocable to the grant;
- in alignment with the application, if one was required, and
- that the use of funds occurred as intended.

C. Cash Management

Compliance Requirement - Not applicable.

E. Eligibility

Compliance Requirement – Not applicable

F. Equipment and Real Property Management

Compliance Requirement - Addressed in the NC Department of Public Instruction Cross-Cutting Requirements.

G. Matching, Level of Effort, Earmarking

Compliance Requirement – Not applicable.

H. Period of Performance

Compliance Requirement –

- PRC 0140 funds are available November 18, 2021, until September 30, 2024.

Audit Objective - Determine that no expenditures were incurred prior to the date the grant began or obligated after the grant period ends.

Suggested Audit Procedure - Review transactions to verify that no expenditures were obligated incurred prior to or after the approved period of availability.

I. Procurement and Suspension and Debarment

Compliance Requirement – Addressed in the NC Department of Public Instruction Cross-Cutting Requirements.

J. Program Income

Compliance Requirement – Not applicable.

L. Reporting

Compliance Requirement – Addressed in the NC Department of Public Instruction Cross-Cutting Requirements.

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M. Subrecipient Monitoring

Compliance Requirement – Not applicable at the local level.

N. Special Tests and Provisions

Compliance Requirement – The funds are federal funds, accordingly Federal Fund Rules apply.