1. Please describe the State’s process for awarding GEER funds to LEAs, IHEs, and/or other education-related entities, including:
   1. Timeline(s) for awarding GEER funds to LEAs, IHEs, and/or other education-related entities; Oklahoma currently has five GEER projects. They were awarded as follows:
      1. Incentive Grants with SDE was awarded on June 10, 2020.
      2. Learn Anywhere was awarded on August 6, 2020.
      3. Stay in School and Bridge the Gap were awarded on August 7, 2020.
      4. Skills to Rebuild was awarded on September 24, 2020.
   2. The criteria, process and deliberations you use to determine which LEAs, IHEs, and/or other education-related agencies are “most significantly impacted by coronavirus;” and/or “Essential” for carrying out emergency educational service; The previous Oklahoma Secretary of Education consulted with many education stakeholders, including the Governor, the current Secretary of Education, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and more to pitch and draft ideas for innovative ways to use the funds to help all students in Oklahoma: public, private, CareerTech, and virtual. The strategy was to ensure all students with needs resulting from COVID had the potential for accessing necessary funding. This meant that some funds were used to help keep private school students in their school despite familial financial challenges due to COVID, other funds were used to help public schools receive reimbursement for using their state allocations to pay for COVID-targeted purposes, and other funds were used to ensure kids could continue to learn at home or at school.
   3. The funding mechanisms (e.g., grants, contracts) the State will use to provide GEER funds to LEAs, IHEs, and/or other education-related entities; Below is a description of the funding mechanisms for each GEER project.
      1. **Project 1 Incentive Grants:** Provides reimbursement for schools that spend money in two out of five areas they selected in their application. The SDE disburses the funds when a district provides a valid reimbursement request that fits within their two selected COVID-related categories.
      2. **Project 2 Learn Anywhere:**Provides access to
         1. **$6.5 million**: Unlimited access to content for all subjects in grades 6-12. There was no need to disburse these funds because we bought access for all schools in Oklahoma so they wouldn’t have to select only a few courses.
         2. **$5 million**: Schools can purchase elementary (K-5) content in social studies and/or science for $50/subject/student. Additionally, schools can purchase digital courses with a teacher of record. This allows schools to offer advanced coursework, typically unavailable in rural areas. Districts received an initial allocation budget to ensure all districts had access to resources on LearnAnywhereOK. Once the initial phase was complete, if additional resources remain, districts, private schools, and homeschool families will be allowed to access content until all resources are exhausted.
         3. **500k**: Helpdesk support will be available via a contract with OPSRC. Oklahoma Supplemental Online Course Program will use any remaining funds for additional management and will apply any remaining balance for additional course credits.
      3. **Project 3 Stay in School:** 1,200 families access to $6,500 scholarships. The schools and students registered online, and after uploading a copy of their tuition, their school receives payment from ClassWallet on their behalf.
      4. **Project 4 Digital Wallet:** Provides accounts of $1,500 directly to 5,000 Oklahoma families to purchase curriculum content, tutoring services, technology and/or internet connectivity. Overhead for the digital wallet is $50/application. ClassWallet tracks expenditures to prevent fraud (with approved vendor codes to track expenditures).
      5. **Project 5 Skills to Rebuild Tuition:** Provide accelerated programs to train 375 individuals to immediately enter well-paying jobs that are in high demand. We provided the funds to Tri-County Tech who funds the program.
   4. Any specific funding conditions or requirements the State will place on awards to ensure the funds are spent for specific purposes or activities. We required all vendors to use the funds only as allowable by USDE and as outlined in the contract.
2. Describe the system of internal controls the State will use to ensure that GEER funds are expended for allowable purposes and in accordance with cash management principles and the Uniform Guidance. The state hired consultants to ensure all COVID-related dollars are being executed on deadline and without scope creep. After their contract expires on 1/31/21, the Oklahoma POC with USDE will require weekly reports from the project managers and engage on a regular basis with all vendors on GEER contracts.
3. If GEER funds are being awarded or used for payments to SEA or IHE administrators, executives, and/or state or local teachers’ unions or associations, please describe your process for reporting the amount of funds used for this purpose, and how the funds are consistent with allowable uses of funds under section 18002(c) of the CARES Act. None of the GEER funds are being used to pay for administrators of IHEs, the SEA, etc.
4. If you intend to provide GEER funds to LEAs, please describe the process you will use to ensure that LEAs receiving GEER funds provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools located within the LEA in the same manner as provided under section 1117 of the ESEA.
   1. GEER funds are not being provided directly to LEAs. They are only receiving GEER funds if they completed an application with OKSDE and were accepted based on the scoring rubric. Those funds can only be expended on across-the-board items from these categories:
      1. Connectivity
      2. LMS/CMS
      3. Mental health supports for students
      4. Science of reading for elementary-age students
      5. Compensatory services for at-risk students