GaDOE Consultation Q&A with State Ombudsman

June 3, 2020
Consultation Q&A

Carly Covic Ambler
State Ombudsman
Consultation Q&A

Based on June 2019 ESSA Form A Submissions

Based on May 2020 CARES Act Intent to Participate; Private School and LEA Updates by Phone and Email

Preliminary Data

# of LEAs Providing Equitable Services

ESSA – 38 LEAs

CARES Act – 58 LEAs
Consultation Q&A

Total GA Private Schools Reporting DE1111 Data in 19-20 with Total Private Schools Served by ESSA and CARES Act

- ESSA: 144 Schools Served, 585 Total Schools
- CARES: 220 Students Served, 39,274 Total Students

Total GA Private School Students Reported in 19-20 DE1111 Data with Total Private School Students Served by ESSA and CARES Act

- ESSA: 102,535 Students Served, 102,535 Total Students
- CARES: 55,106 Students Served, 55,106 Total Students

Data Sources: GaDOE Annual DE1111 Reports, GaDOE Private School List, Federal Programs Annual Participation Reports, May 2020 CARES Act Intent to Participate
Consultation Q&A

USDE Non-Regulatory Guidance

GaDOE Consultation Guide
## Consultation Q&A
### Timeline Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05.04.2020</td>
<td>GaDOE Reaches Out to LEAs and Private Schools by Email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05.06.2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- GaDOE provides training on CARES Act for stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- GaDOE begins daily communication with LEAs on stakeholder involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- LEAs begin invitation and consultation process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Private schools begin to submit Intent to Participate on GaDOE online form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05.20.2020</td>
<td>Deadline for Intent to Participate Form Submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05.22.2020</td>
<td>Proportionate Share Emailed to LEAs and Posted Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06.30.2020</td>
<td>Deadline for Consultation Affirmation &amp; Attempts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Consultation Q&A

• Currently published proportionate share calculations are preliminary
• Proportionate share calculations outlined in FAQs.
• Once final proportionate share calculations are submitted by LEAs a final version will be posted on the Ombudsman webpage. This is expected to occur in July 2020.
Consultation Q&A

Unsuccessful Consultation Attempt Form

Submit June 30, 2020 - Via Jotform
https://form.jotform.com/201254589006049
Consultation Q&A

Confirmation of Timely and Meaningful Consultation

Submit June 30, 2020
Via Jotform
https://form.jotform.com/201254589006049
What is your role?

Please select one:

- Private School New to CARES
- Private School New to Federal Programs & CARES
- LEA New to CARES
- LEA New to Equitable Services and CARES
- Other

Quick Poll Results:
- 15% Private School New to CARES
- 4% Private School New to Federal Programs & CARES
- 43% LEA New to CARES
- 19% LEA New to Equitable Services and CARES
- 18% Other
Have you already conducted/participated in your CARES consultation?

Please select one:

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable

Quick Poll Results:
- 37% Yes
- 47% No
- 16% Not Applicable
Have you looked at the GaDOE CARES Act Consultation Guide yet?

Please select one:

- Yes - cover to cover
- Yes - only the front cover and maybe a little skim
- No - what CARES Act Consultation Guide?
- No - I got CARES Act Covered
- Not Applicable/Other Response

Quick Poll Results:

- 47% Yes - cover to cover
- 46% Yes - only the front cover and maybe a litt...
- 6% No - what CARES Act Consultation Guide?
- 0% No - I got CARES Act Covered
- 1% Not Applicable/Other Response
Consultation Q&A

Timely and Meaningful Consultation:

• LEAs are responsible for scheduling timely and meaningful consultation to cover required consultation topics and develop a mutually agreed upon plan that will address the needs of the private school’s students and teachers.

• Meetings between the LEA and nonpublic school officials need not occur in person if they cannot be conducted due to closed schools or social distancing rules. In this case, US Ed recommends LEAs and non-public school officials consult remotely.

• The LEA must maintain and provide to the SEA written affirmation (developed by GaDOE) signed by non-public school officials that timely and meaningful consultation has occurred and, if non-public school officials do not provide such affirmation, the LEA must forward to the SEA the documentation that such consultation has, or attempts at such consultation have, taken place.
Consultation Q&A

• How does an LEA begin the consultation process?
  One way to accomplish this is for the LEA to extend an invitation to officials of the private schools and convene a meeting with them during which LEA officials describe the program and allowable activities available to private school students and teachers, explain the roles of public and private school officials, address the specific needs of private school students and teachers, and provide opportunities for the private school officials to ask questions and offer suggestions. A consultation process that involves an LEA simply sending a letter to private school officials explaining the purpose of federal education programs and the LEA’s intent to apply for funds is not adequate consultation. Likewise, a letter describing the services that an LEA intends to provide for private school students, without any prior consultation, is not sufficient to meet the consultation requirement.
Consultation Q&A

• What does “the goal of reaching agreement” between an LEA and appropriate private school officials entail?
  The “goal of reaching agreement” between an LEA and appropriate private school officials is grounded in timely, meaningful, and open communication between the LEA and the private school officials on key issues that are relevant to the equitable participation of eligible private school students, teachers and other education personnel, and families in the CARES Act.
Consultation Q&A

• Cont’d
Meaningful consultation provides ample time and a genuine opportunity for all parties to express their views, to have their views seriously considered, and to discuss viable options for ensuring equitable participation of eligible private school students, teachers and other education personnel, and families. This assumes that the LEA has not made any decisions that will impact the participation of private school students and teachers in applicable programs prior to consultation or established a blanket rule that precludes private school students and teachers from receiving certain services authorized under the applicable program. An LEA should consult with private school officials about the timeline for consultation and provide adequate notice of such consultation to ensure meaningful consultation and the likelihood that those involved will be well prepared with the necessary information and data for decision-making.

Successful consultation begins well before the implementation of services, establishes positive and productive working relationships, makes planning effective, continues throughout implementation of equitable services, and serves to ensure that the services provided meet the needs of eligible students and teachers.
If you are an LEA, will you need to make any adjustments to CARES consultation?

Please select one:

- Yes - I just to need adjust my plans
- Yes - I will need to reach back out to the private school(s)
- No - I covered everything and am feeling great about it!
- No - I hadn't started so I will be right on track
- Not Applicable/Other Response
Would it be helpful to have a consultation guide and recorded session like this for ESSA?

Please select one:

- Yes
- Yes and I will reach out to you to help draft one
- No - I prefer to do my own thing
- Not Applicable/Other Response

Quick Poll Results

- 95% Yes
- 5% Yes and I will reach out to you to help draft one
- 0% No - I prefer to do my own thing
- 0% Not Applicable/Other Response
Consultation Q&A
Feedback - Ombudsman@doe.k12.ga.us

Please provide us with feedback by completing our short survey. The survey can be access by QR code or the abbreviated link below.


Open your phone’s camera and hold up until you can see QR code. Your phone will prompt you to access a website – allow access.
Preparing students for life.

www.gadoe.org
@georgiadeptofed
youtube.com/c/GeorgiaDepartmentofEducation