



*News from Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley & the  
MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education*

## On the Desktop - July 6, 2020

### **\$25m Grant for Remote Learning-Related Technology Needs and Health Safety Supply/PPE ordering process open**

Dear Superintendents, Charter School Leaders, Assistant Superintendents,

### **\$25m Grant for Remote Learning-Related Technology Needs**

We are pleased to announce the [Remote Learning Technology Essentials Grant](#). The grant was established to address remaining remote learning technology needs and to ensure that every student has adequate access to technology for use in remote learning environments during the 2020-2021 school year. The Remote Learning Technology Essentials grant is a competitive grant program that invites LEAs to apply for funding to address device and internet gaps for students. A total of \$25m will be available for disbursement to match expenses LEAs plan to commit/expend by the beginning of the school year.

Applications are due **Tuesday, July 21**.

Questions can be directed to Jacquelyn Gantzer at: [jacquelyn.m.gantzer@mass.gov](mailto:jacquelyn.m.gantzer@mass.gov).

### **Health Safety Supply/PPE ordering process open**

As discussed in our [June 10 guidance for Acquisition Support for Safety Supplies](#), the state sponsored Health Safety Supply/PPE ordering process is now available on COMMBUYS through our partnership with the Operational Services Division (OSD).

The Operational Services Division (OSD), working closely with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), has developed a program to facilitate initial and ongoing purchasing of safety/PPE supplies required for school reopening.

The DESE K-12 Health Safety Supply/PPE Program, supported by eight Statewide Contract Vendors, will offer products outlined in DESE's guidance issued in June 2020, to include:

- Disposable Masks
- Disposable Nitrile Gloves
- Disposable Gowns

- Eye Protection
- Face Shields
- Waste Disposal Medium
- N-95 Ventilating Masks/KN-95 Masks
- Hand Sanitizer
- Disinfecting Wipes

Statewide Contract Vendors are ready to accept orders.

The DESE K-12 Health Safety Supply/PPE Program [Contract User Guide](#) outlines how to find product pricing in COMMBUYS, available discounts, and options to purchase through COMMBUYS or direct outreach to vendors. Vendors and contact information can be found at the end of the guide. Vendor pricing may be updated. Reference [COMMBUYS](#) for the most current pricing information.

Entities interested in purchasing through COMMBUYS should send an email to [COMMBUYSEnablement@mass.gov](mailto:COMMBUYSEnablement@mass.gov) to arrange COMMBUYS set-up support.

Please direct contract purchasing questions to the OSD Help Desk at [OSDHelpDesk@mass.gov](mailto:OSDHelpDesk@mass.gov) or 888-MA-State (627-8283).

DESE is hosting a Zoom meeting on **Wednesday, July 8 at 12:00 p.m.** to review how to access and use the program.

Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/94259364040>

Meeting ID: 942 5936 4040

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,94259364040# US (New York)

+13017158592,,94259364040# US (Germantown)

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Riley  
Commissioner