



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
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OFFICE OF FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

November 12, 2020

TO: Deputy Superintendent
Chief of Staff to the Superintendent
State Public Charter School Commission

FROM: Randall M. Tanaka
Assistant Superintendent

SUBJECT: **Charter School Funding for Personal Protective Equipment and Industrial Hygiene Supplies**

The purpose of this memo is to clarify in advance how the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) and industrial hygiene (IH) products for Public Charter Schools will be funded/handled in the coming months.

Currently the Department of Education (DOE) is providing the same array of PPE and IH products to Public Charter Schools as it does to all regular DOE schools. This PPE and IH is being paid for and distributed by Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HIEMA) using a portion of Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) funds allocated to HIEMA by the state legislature. However, once the DOE's funding allocation at HIEMA is used up (expected to last through about December, 2020), the DOE will no longer be able to provide charter schools with PPE and IH, and they will need to purchase their own PPE.

This shift in policy when HIEMA funds are exhausted will occur because of funding source changes. So long as federal funds such as HIEMA's CARES CRF funds are being used, charter schools are entitled to their fair share since they have not separately been given any of those funds. In contrast, charter schools have already been directly given their share of other funding sources available to the DOE such as CARES Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds and state general funds. So at the point when HIEMA's CARES CRF funds run out and the DOE shifts to using CARES ESSER or state general funds for purchasing PPE and IH,

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charter schools will no longer be able to be included. Again, the timing of this change is expected to be after December, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Maynard "Max" Mendoza, Director of the Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness Branch, at (808) 784-5185, or via email maynard.mendoza@k12.hi.us.

RMT:mm

c: Coordinated Support Director
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