

Memorandum

To: Employment Ontario (EO) Transfer Payment Recipients

From: David Cronin, Director
Program Delivery Support Branch

Date: May 28, 2021

Subject: Ongoing Availability of Emergency Response Funding in 2021-2022

It has been an unprecedented year, with many parts of Ontario facing lockdowns for extended periods of time, and you have responded to the challenges that this has posed by showing versatility and tenacity in responding to client needs throughout this time.

Many of you have identified an ongoing need for the supports provided for under the Emergency Response Funding (ERF) budget line, that was [introduced last fiscal year](#). ERF can be used to cover the costs of digital supports, leasehold improvements and infection control practices. It cannot be used for agreement extensions, renovations, pre-existing plans as part of ongoing operations, or salaries and wages.

The ministry recognizes that client intakes continue to be historically low this year and while prior to 2020-2021 the ministry had not permitted the movement of flow-through funds, the ministry will continue to entertain requests to allow for a portion of flow-through funds to be reallocated to ERF in 2021-2022. All requests will be carefully assessed, with a clear expectation that you retain enough flow-through funding to serve anticipated client volumes throughout the entirety of the fiscal year.

We don't know what lies ahead for us, but I am confident that together we will help the citizens of Ontario to rebuild what has been lost and meet both challenges and opportunities to strengthen Ontario's economy in the years ahead.

If you would like to discuss the addition of ERF to your 2021-2022 agreement or have any other questions regarding ERF, please contact your ministry representative.

Thank you,

David Cronin
Director

cc: Heather Cross, Western Region – Regional Director
Andrew Irvine, Northern Region – Regional Director
Tariq Ismati, Eastern Region – Regional Director
Laura Loveridge, Central Region – Regional Director