



# Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner

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*Senate Finance Hearing*

*October 6, 2021*

**RHODE  
ISLAND**

# Governor Education Emergency Relief Funds (GEER)

In January 2021, OPC was appointed to administer \$3.9 million in GEER funding by Governor Raimondo to support three targeted programs as part of the state's COVID response

| Initiative  | Details  | Funding   |
|---|--|-----------|
| Early Childhood Care and Education                              | In collaboration with DHS, RIDE, childcare centers, and higher-ed institutions, build out pathways to upskill the early childhood workforce to deliver the highest standard of early education and accelerated educational development | \$2.4M    |
| Woonsocket Workforce Development and Higher Education Center    | For the northern region of Rhode Island create workforce training programs with employers and IHEs; provide awareness and access leading to enrollment   | \$471,602 |
| Fund to Support Sustainability of Public Higher-Ed Institutions | Administer funds to colleges most financially impacted by COVID to assist with institutional adjustments as a response to the environment created by COVID   | \$1M      |

# Appendix

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# Allocation of Funds

| Initiative  | FY 21        | FY 22          | FY 23          | Total        |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Early Childhood Care and Education                              | \$3,195.00   | \$1,196,805.00 | \$1,200,000.00 | \$2.4M       |
| Woonsocket Workforce Training and Higher Education Center       | \$0          | \$337,471.00   | \$134,131.00   | \$471,602.00 |
| Fund to Support Sustainability of Public Higher-Ed Institutions | \$369,994.00 | \$630,006.00   | \$0            | \$1M         |