

You can use this fill-in-the-blank template to create a community impact letter explaining the importance of federal Covid relief funds for K-12 schools to your community. You can invite groups and individuals to sign, then share this with elected officials. **Before you start, you will want to read our [Community Impact Letter How-To document](#).** It gives you everything you need to customize this letter, gather signatures, and send it to decisionmakers at the Texas Capitol.

LETTER TEMPLATE

We are writing to request that the State of Texas release all federal funding from recent coronavirus relief and stimulus acts directly to our state's school districts, as intended by federal legislation. Almost \$18 billion in federal funds has been allocated for K-12 education in Texas. This funding is essential to meet the needs of our students and schools, and it is a key component of a successful recovery for our community and our state.

In **(NAME OF YOUR DISTRICT)**, the second and third stimulus bills provide an estimated **(AMOUNT FROM COLUMN 2 and COLUMN 3)**. That includes **(AMOUNT FROM COLUMN 2)** from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and **(AMOUNT FROM COLUMN 3)** from the American Rescue Plan Act. Our district needs these funds to address important and urgent needs for **(NUMBER OF STUDENTS)**.

Our schools are prepared to use this funding wisely and well. **(LIST WHAT YOUR DISTRICT MIGHT USE THE FUNDS FOR)** **(SAY WHY THAT MATTERS TO YOUR COMMUNITY)**

OPTIONAL: In our (COUNTY/REGION), the amount intended for districts is even larger – an estimated (ADD COLUMN TWO AND THREE FOR NEARBY DISTRICTS). Every district knows what its students need and each is ready to use the funds to help meet those needs.

Here in **(YOUR DISTRICT)**, we have spent **(AMOUNT)** on costs directly related to the pandemic – costs that were not included in our district's budget. Individuals and organizations have rallied to offer support and help fill the gaps. But no community can do this alone. And that's why the federal funding promised to schools is so essential. Funds intended as relief for schools are an investment in our students and teachers. They are an investment in the recovery of our communities. And they are an investment in our state's future – ensuring that students have what they need to thrive today and to graduate ready to join our workforce or succeed in higher education.

The impact of withholding this funding is felt far beyond our schools. Federal funding for our schools is funding for our state's recovery. Each of these acts provides a package of relief and stimulus funding – direct aid for individuals, support for local businesses, funds to help our local governments, and money to meet the needs of our schools. That's a powerful tool to ensure we emerge from this moment strong and ready to succeed. By withholding funding from our schools, Texas is harming our students, our community, and our state.

In other states, federal funds are already reaching schools as intended. Districts are making smart use of those funds. And students and communities are seeing the benefits. But here in Texas, our schools, students, and communities are waiting for funds that are not being released as intended.

Every day without that funding is a day that needs continue to grow and a day that the opportunity to use those funds as intended is missed. We join together to ask you to support our community and every Texas community by ensuring these funds are used as intended. It's the right thing for students. It's the right thing for our community. And it's the right thing to ensure a successful recovery for Texas.