Ohio | Department of Education

CCIP Note #459

Re: Announcement of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II (ESSER II)
Date: January 13, 2021
To: Superintendents, Treasurers, Authorized Representatives, Fiscal Representatives and Consolidated Funding Application Contacts of ESSER Recipients

Announcement of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II (ESSER II)
In the Spring of 2020, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) awarded more than $13 billion in assistance to elementary and secondary schools through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

On December 27, 2020, President Trump signed into law the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), 2021, Public Law 116-260, which provides an additional $54.3 billion for an ESSER II Fund.

The USED announced an additional **$1,991,251,095** in ESSER II funds to Ohio.

Ohio's allocation is based on the proportion of funds that Ohio received under Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 in Federal Fiscal Year 2020.

This new funding is intended to help states and school districts safely reopen schools, measure and effectively address significant learning loss, and take other actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the students and families who depend on our K-12 schools.

What to Expect and Next Steps:

- **LEA Preliminary Allocations for ESSER Funds:** In the coming weeks, the Office of Federal Programs (OFP) will make preliminary allocations for Local Education Agencies (LEAs). These preliminary allocations will be determined based on current guidance from the USED. Click HERE for the USED State Allocation breakdown. The minimum distribution of funds for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will be $1,792,125,986. The Ohio Department of Education will release more information on LEA allocations and additional guidance in the weeks ahead.
- **Ohio LEA Application:** The Office of Federal Programs is anticipating that a separate application for ESSER II will be required for various reasons, including the need to track and report the ESSER I and ESSER II funds separately. OFP plans to make available a Word document template of the LEA application that will be coded into the CCIP. This template should help districts plan and prepare for the ESSER II application once it is available in the CCIP. It is anticipated that districts will simply need to cut and paste the information into the CCIP.
- **ESSER II Guidance:** ODE will provide comprehensive guidance on ESSER II in the weeks ahead. The allowable uses of the ESSER II grant mirror the ESSER grant, but there are a few uses that have been specifically added to ESSER II. In addition, nonpublic services under the CRRSA Act are provided through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund rather than ESSER II. The ESSER II application will reflect these additions and changes, and forthcoming guidance will give instructions on completing the application. For a quick comparison between ESSER and ESSER II, please reference the USED ESSER II Fact Sheet HERE.
- **USED Resources:** The main source of information about the CARES Act and ESSER Fund is the USED. ODE will provide information as it is received. The USED COVID-19 website may be accessed HERE. Key information documents are below and housed within the CCIP Document Library.

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Resources:

- USED ESSER II Cover Letter
- USED ESSER II Fact Sheet
- USED ESSER II State Allocations