Ohio | Department of Education

CCIP Note #470

Re: ARP ESSER Local Education Agency Allocations, ARP ESSER Application Template and ESSER Reimbursement Update
Date: April 16, 2021
To: Superintendents, Treasurers, Authorized Representatives, Fiscal Representatives and Consolidated Funding Application Contacts of ESSER Recipients

American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER)
On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund was enacted as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, Public Law 117-2.ARP ESSER provides a total of nearly $122 billion to States and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

Interim and Final ARP ESSER Local Education Agency (LEA) Allocations
Ohio's award is based on the proportion of funds received under Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 in Federal Fiscal Year 2020. Ohio's total ARP ESSER award $4,472,067,097. Ohio has already received 2/3 of the award ($2,981,378,065) and will receive the remaining 1/3 balance ($1,490,689, 032) upon completion of a State Education Agency (SEA) ARP Plan.

Each eligible subrecipient LEA will receive an interim allocation in the *first week of May*. Each eligible subrecipient LEA will receive a second allocation of funds when USED awards the balance of Ohio's total ARP award. Local Education Agencies can find the interim ARP ESSER LEA allocation amount and the final ARP ESSER allocation amounts HERE. ARP ESSER allocations are determined from the proportion of funds that LEAs received under Part A of Title I of the ESEA of 1965 in the most recent fiscal year, in accordance with guidance from the USED.

Proposed ARP ESSER LEA Application
The ARP ESSER application will be housed in Fiscal Year 2022 within the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP). The proposed ARP ESSER LEA Application can be found HERE. This template will help districts prepare for the ARP ESSER application that will become available in the CCIP the first week of May. The proposed ARP ESSER LEA Application will be part of the ARP ESSER Budget Details page in the CCIP. An ARP ESSER Budget Grid will also be required as part of the CCIP ARP ESSER application.

Additional Supports
ARP ESSER Guidance: OFP will provide guidance on ARP ESSER, including a Frequently Asked Questions document. This ARP ESSER Guidance and FAQs will be housed under the ARP ESSER folder in the CCIP Document Library. Each Local Education Agency will also be assigned a federal programs consultant to assist in completing the ARP ESSER application.

USED Resources: The main source of information about the CARES Act and ESSER Fund is the USED. OFP 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.

Other Resources:
- Interim and Final ARP ESSER LEA Allocations
- Proposed ARP ESSER Application
- USED ARP ESSER Fact Sheet
- USED ARP ESSER State Allocations

If you have questions, contact your federal programs consultant or email federalprograms@education.ohio.gov.

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Delay in ESSER Reimbursements

This message is for recipients of grant funding under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). The two bills that would restore the Department's appropriation authority for ESSER (S.B. 111 and H.B. 170) continue to move though the legislative process. As a result, claims for reimbursement continue to be delayed. We encourage districts to continue to spend against their approved ESSER budgets and submit Project Cash Requests per usual. If you have a pending Project Cash Request that you would like to amend, please reach out to Grants.Management@education.ohio.gov.

For districts concerned with carrying a temporary negative cash balance in their ESSER Fund (507), this may be addressed by Revised Code Section 3315.20. This law allows a district to have a deficit in any special fund if both of the following conditions are met:

A. A request for payment pending payment with the state is sufficient to cover the amount of the deficit and there is a reasonable likelihood that payment will be made
B. The unspent and unencumbered balance in the district's general fund is greater than the aggregate of deficit amounts in all of the district's special funds.

The Department will also pursue a legislative solution, so schools and districts do not face audit findings with respect to negative cash balances in fund 507. We apologize for any inconvenience this creates and we appreciate your patience as we work with our partners in the General Assembly to resolve it. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Grants.Management@education.ohio.gov.