New Coordinators Academy: ESSER I, ESSER II and ESSER III



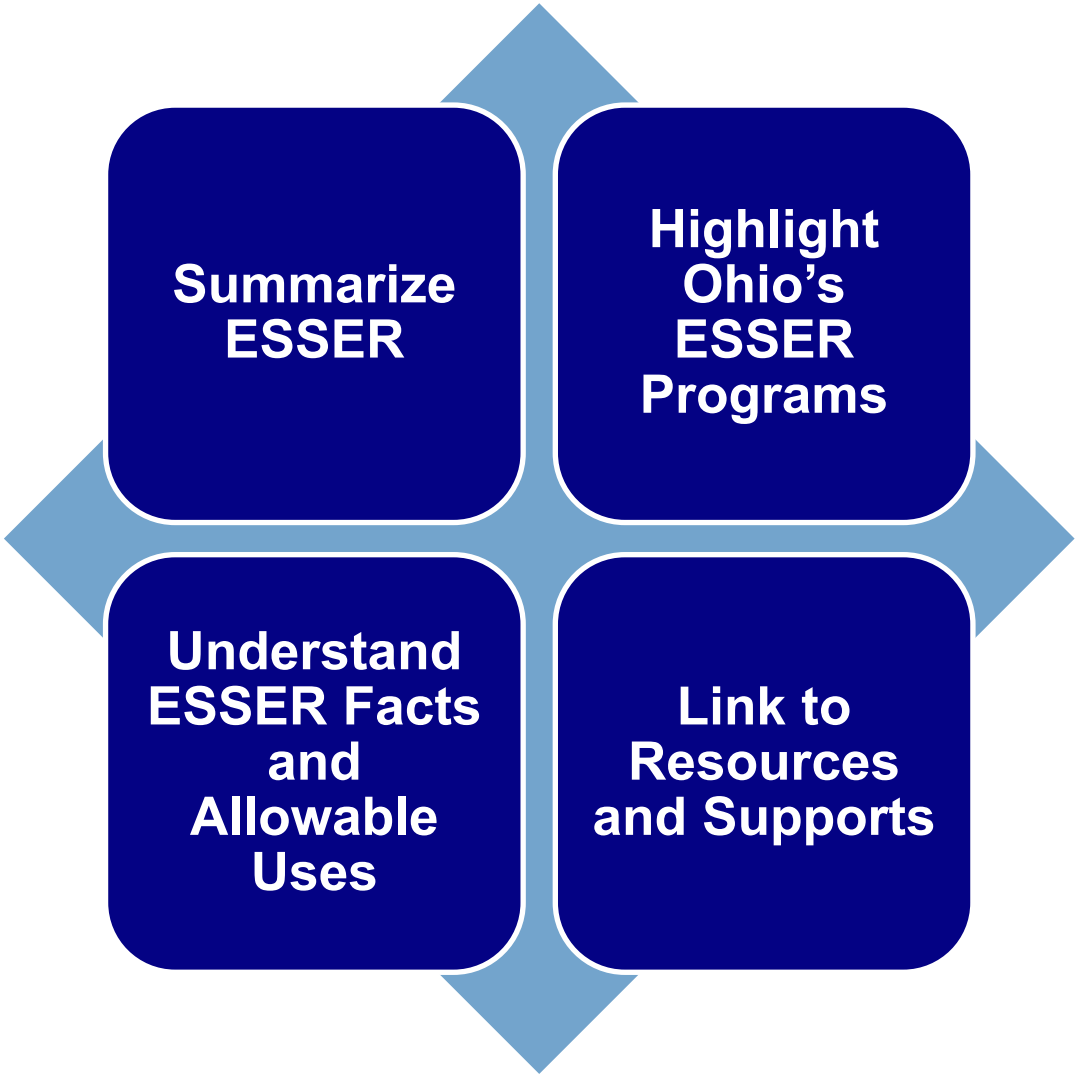
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Ohio Department of Education

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- Welcome and Introductions
- Learning Objectives
- CARES Act - ESSER I,
- CRRSA Act – ESSER II
- American Rescue Plan – ESSER III
- Supports
- Facilitated Q & A

Learning Objectives



ESSER I

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act, passed March 27th, 2020.
  - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER).
    - Purpose: Provide support to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to address the impact that the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools.
      - ESSER (National): $13.2 billion
      - ESSER (Ohio): $489.2 million

ESSER II

- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, signed December 27, 2020.
  - ESSER II (National): $54.3 billion
  - ESSER II (Ohio): $1.9 billion

ESSER III (ARP ESSER)

- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, $1.9 trillion, passed on March 11, 2021
    - ARP ESSER (National): $122.9 billion
    - ARP ESSER (Ohio): $4.4 billion

ESSER III – Additional Requirements*

- Plans posted to LEA website and sent to continuityplans@education.ohio.gov:
  - Safe Return Of In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (by June 24)
  - ARP ESSER Plan (by August 20)
- 20 Percent Requirement for Addressing Learning Loss
- Maintenance of Equity

* LEAs should be prepared to meet additional policies, as requested by the SEA

ESSER III – Learning Loss

Not less than 20 percent of the LEA's total ARP ESSER allocation will be used to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as:

- Summer learning or summer enrichment
- Extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs
- Extended school year programs
- Other evidence-based interventions

Guidance: https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening-2.pdf

ESSER III – Maintenance of Equity

LEAs must not, in fiscal year 2022 or 2023—

- (A) reduce per-pupil funding (from combined State and local funding) for any high-poverty school …
- (B) reduce per-pupil, full-time equivalent staff in any high-poverty school …

This requirement does not apply to an LEA in fiscal year 2022 or 2023 that meets at least 1 of the following

criteria:

- (A) LEA has a total enrollment of less than 1,000 students
- (B) The LEA operates a single school
- (C) The LEA serves all students within each grade span with a single school
- (D) The LEA demonstrates an exceptional or uncontrollable circumstance, such as unpredictable changes in student enrollment or a precipitous decline in the financial resources

Guidance: https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/06/21-0099-MOEq-FAQs.-FINAL.pdf

ARP ESSER Timeline

ODE	LEA
• May 24, 2021: Allocations released (2/3 of total ARP award) to LEAs to begin budgeting • June 7, 2021: Submit state ARP plan to USED • July 21, 2021: Remaining 1/3 of Ohio's ESSER award released to LEAs	• By May 17, 2021: Submit assurances • By June 24, 2021: Post continuity of services plan on website • By August 20, 2021: Complete and submit entire APR ESSER application; post plan to website

ESSER Allowable Uses

- Activities authorized under ESEA, IDEA, Perkins, McKinney-Vento subtitle B, Adult Education and Family Literacy Acts.

- b) Coordinate preparedness and response efforts of LEA with state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments and other relevant agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

- c) Activities to address unique needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, foster youth.

- d) Develop and implement procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEA.

- e) Training and PD for staff of LEA on sanitation and minimizing spread of infectious diseases.

(continued)

ESSER Allowable Uses

- f) Purchase supplies to clean and sanitize facilities of the LEA.
- g) Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures (meals, technology, IDEA, and other educational services provided consistent with Federal, state, local requirements).
- h) Purchase educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students served by LEA, including low-income and IDEA.
- i) Provide mental health services and supports.
- j) Plan and implement summer learning and supplemental afterschool activities.
- k) Addressing learning loss by: administering and using high-quality assessments to assess students' academic progress and meet students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction; implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students; providing information and assistance to parent and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and/or tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.

(continued)

ESSER Allowable Uses

- l) School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.

- m) Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and nonmechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.

- n) Provide principals and other school leaders with resources necessary to address needs of their individual schools.

- o) Other activities necessary to maintain the operations and continuity of services in the LEA and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA.

New! ESSER FAQs

The U.S. Department of Education released “Frequently Asked Questions: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Programs” in May 2021.

A. Overview of ESSER funds.

B. Reopening schools safely and promoting the health and safety of students, staff and the school community.

C. Advancing educational equity in COVID-19 response.

D. Using ESSER funds to support educators and other school staff.

E. Additional fiscal considerations.

https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ESSER.GEER_.FAQs_5.26.21_745AM_FINALb0cd6833f6f46e03ba2d97d30aff953260028045f9ef3b18ea602db4b32b1d99.pdf

COVID-19 Resources

- CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools
- COVID-19 Health and Prevention Guidance for Ohio K-12 Schools (2021-22 School Year)

CCIP Document Library Links

- ODE ARP ESSER FAQ
- USED ARP Fact Sheet

Allowable Use: Five Questions

1. Will the proposed use of funds "prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus"?
2. Is it an allowable use of funds under CARES/CRRSA/ARP?
3. Is it reasonable and necessary?
4. Does it promote equity?
5. Does it support returning students to the classroom?

Common Questions

What is the period of availability of ESSER?

Fund	Start Date	End Date
CARES/ESSER I	3/13/2020	9/30/2022
CRRSA/ESSER II	3/13/2020	9/30/2023
ARP/ESSER III	3/13/2020	9/30/2024

Common Questions

Do I need to follow the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) for ESSER?

Yes. ESSER is governed by the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR). Among other requirements, all expenses paid with ESSER funds must be necessary and reasonable under the circumstances.

Common Questions

Can we fund new and existing staff with the ESSER funds?

Yes, funding new and/or existing staff is allowable under ESSER if these staff are in response to the impact that COVID-19 has had on the district and its schools.

It is important to note that there is no Supplement, Not Supplant requirement in any ESSER grants.

Common Questions

Should the LEA document how paying salaries for individuals is necessary to maintain continuity of operations?

Yes. The Ohio Department of Education would expect that the district document and be able to explain, upon request, how they are using the funds to maintain the operations and continuity of services.

Common Questions

Can we use ESSER funds for bonuses or merit pay?

Yes, a district could pay bonuses or merit-pay connected to COVID-related disruptions or closures. For example, a local educational agency (LEA) might use local ESSER funds to provide employees with additional pay to:

- Address recruitment or retention challenges in light of the pandemic,
- Provide additional compensation to teachers and other staff that work in-person,
- Provide additional compensation to teachers and other staff that have assumed new duties because of COVID

Common Questions

Can ESSER funds be used to construct buildings, if the building is needed in response to COVID-19?

ESSER funds may be used purchase real property and perform construction for improvements to land, buildings, or equipment that meet the overall purpose of ESSER, which is “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to” the COVID-19 pandemic.

Common Questions

What are allowable uses of ESSER for facilities renovations and improvements?

1. School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs
2. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities

Common Questions

Can ESSER funds be used to make IT improvements?

Yes. For example, if an LEA needs to increase its use of technology, such as for potential temporary shifts to hybrid learning if COVID-19 cases arise, expanded cybersecurity needs to facilitate that activity may also be addressed using ESSER funds.

More Questions?

federalprograms@education.ohio.gov



Questions?