ESSER OVERVIEW



Office of Federal Programs · September 2021

Ohio Department of Education

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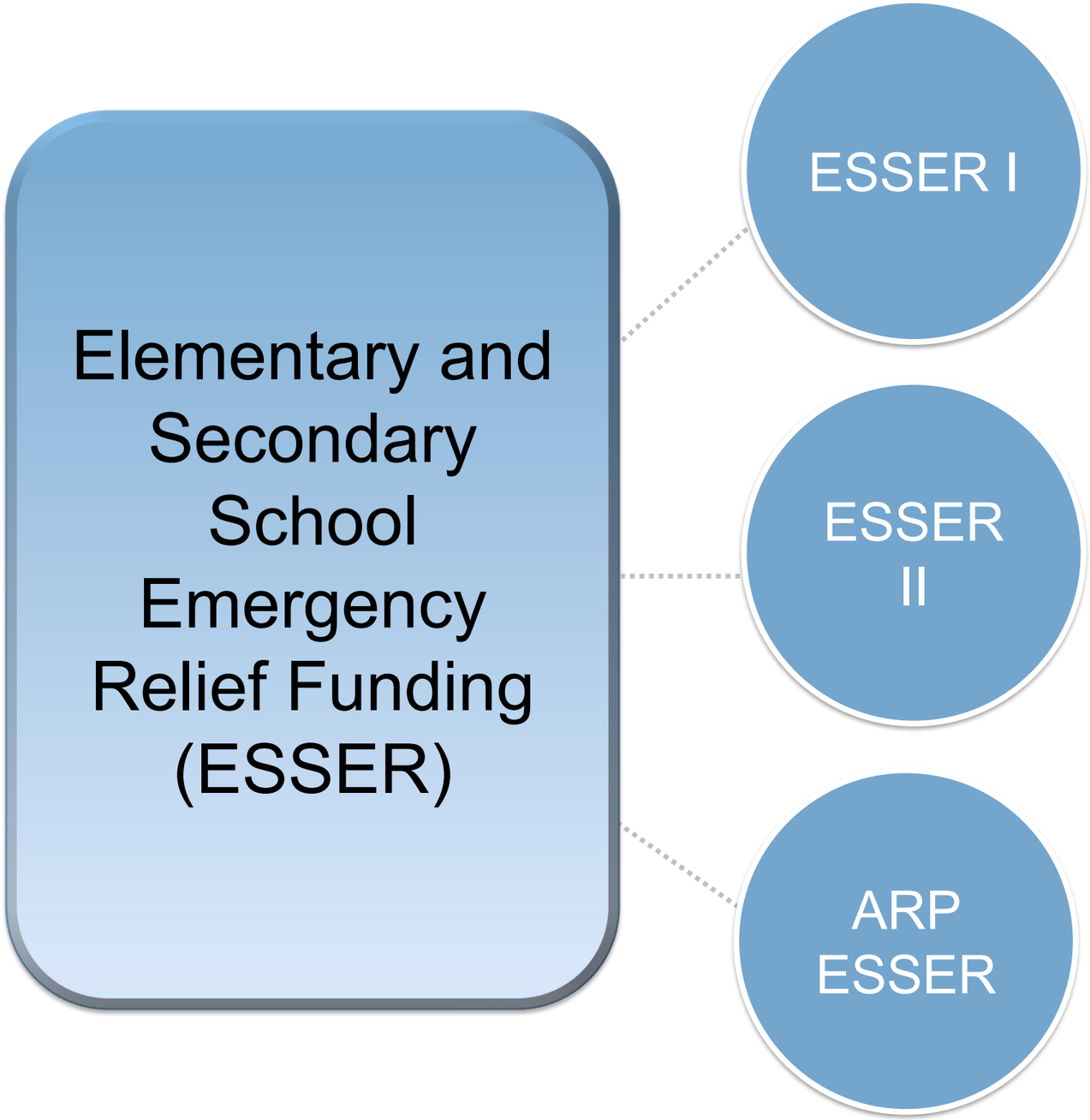
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Knowledge Check

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- Enacted March 2020
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)
- Ohio allocation: $489.2 million
- Nonpublic set-aside required

- Enacted January 2021
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA)
- Ohio allocation: $1.9 billion
- Nonpublics are now covered by EANS

- Enacted March 2021
- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)
  Ohio allocation: $4.4 billion
- EANS continues
- *New requirements*

Period Of Availability

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

Comparing Emergency Funding

ESSER I & II

- ✓ Application in CCIP
- ✓ "prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19"
- ✓ Allowable uses expanded

ARP ESSER

- ✓ Application in CCIP
- ✓ "prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19"
- ✓ Required uses and steps

Requirements of ARP ESSER

- Maintenance of Equity
- 20 Percent Requirement for Addressing Learning Loss
- Safe Return of In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
- Local Use of Funds Plan

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: Maintenance-of-Equity-updated-FAQs_final_08.06.2021.pdf

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

Safe Return of In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

- Develop, seek public comment**, and make publicly available on the LEA's website**… as required in section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP, or (b) developed and made publicly available on the LEA's website such a plan that meets statutory requirements before the enactment of the ARP.

- **LEAs should post these plans to their local website and then submit the website address that links directly to the plan to continuityplan@education.ohio.gov by June 24.**

Local Use of Funds Plan

- “As required by the U.S. Department of Education, districts and community schools **must provide a public-facing and transparent description of their uses of the federal emergency ARP ESSER funds on their website**.

- **The Ohio Department of Education recommends districts and community schools add a summary of the Local Use of Funds plan to the existing Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services plan.**

- **If the plan is posted at a different location, then the website address that links directly to the summary should be submitted to continuityplan@education.ohio.gov**

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ESSER Allowable Uses

4. ARP ESSER Activities

Select activities that the LEA will implement with the ARP ESSER Fund and provide an estimated amount for that activity (check one or more). The total in the Amount boxes must add up to the allocation.

P = Public

	AMOUNT	☐ P	a. Activities authorized under ESEA, IDEA, Perkins, McKinney-Vento subtitle B, Adult Education and Family Literacy Acts. Please elaborate below.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	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.
50,000.00	AMOUNT	☑ P	c. Activities to address unique needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, foster youth.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	d. Develop and implement procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEA.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	e. Training and PD for staff of LEA on sanitation and minimizing spread of infectious diseases.
50,000.00	AMOUNT	☑ P	f. Purchase supplies to clean and sanitize facilities of the LEA.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	g. Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures (meals, technology, IDEA, and other educational services provided consistent with Federal, state, local requirements).
50,000.00	AMOUNT	☑ P	h. Purchase educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students served by LEA, including low-income and IDEA.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	i. Provide mental health services and supports.
100,000.00	AMOUNT	☑ P	j. Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.
999,358.51	AMOUNT	☑ P	k. Addressing learning loss. Please elaborate below.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	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.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	m. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	n. Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff. Please elaborate below.
	AMOUNT	☐ P	o. Other activities necessary to maintain the operations and continuity of services in the LEA and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA. Please elaborate below.

Details of A from above: Select under which authorized program/s the district intends to utilize the funds. Select all that apply and provide an estimate of the amount budgeted for each.

Common Questions

Funding Existing Staff

As you consider using funds for salaries...

Allowable activity O.
Other activities necessary to maintain the operations and continuity of services in the LEA and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA
Supporting documentation
Time and effort
Governed by the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

Bonuses

Or stipends/merit pay

Allowable activity O.
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

Subscriptions

And/or software licenses

Allowable activity (multiple)

Work with the vendor to ensure subscription dates align with each fiscal year

Only budget that which falls within the period of availability for each particular ESSER grant

Construction and Facilities Improvements

As you consider using funds for improvements to land, buildings, or equipment...

Allowable activities L. and M.

Focus on air quality and environmental standards to mitigate the risk of COVID

Must “prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus”

Should address a need that has emerged during the pandemic

Must meet the standard for reasonable and necessary

ARP ESSER Resources

Below is the Document Library. Expand the nodes to view the folders and documents.

Document Library [Expand All] [Collapse All]

- ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act)
- CARES Act and ESSER Fund
- CCIP
- CRRSA Act, ESSER II Fund and GEER II Fund
- American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act
  - ARP ESSER
  - EANS
  - ARP IDEA



ARP ESSER Resources

- USDE ESSER Website
- CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools
- USDE ARP ESSER Fact Sheet
- ARP Interim Final Rule (Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 76)
- USDE ESSER GEER Frequently Asked Questions
- USDE Maintenance of Equity Guidance 8.6.21
- ODE ARP ESSER FAQ – May 2021 and August 2021
- For ESSER assistance, email federalprograms@education.ohio.gov or contact your Federal Programs consultant.

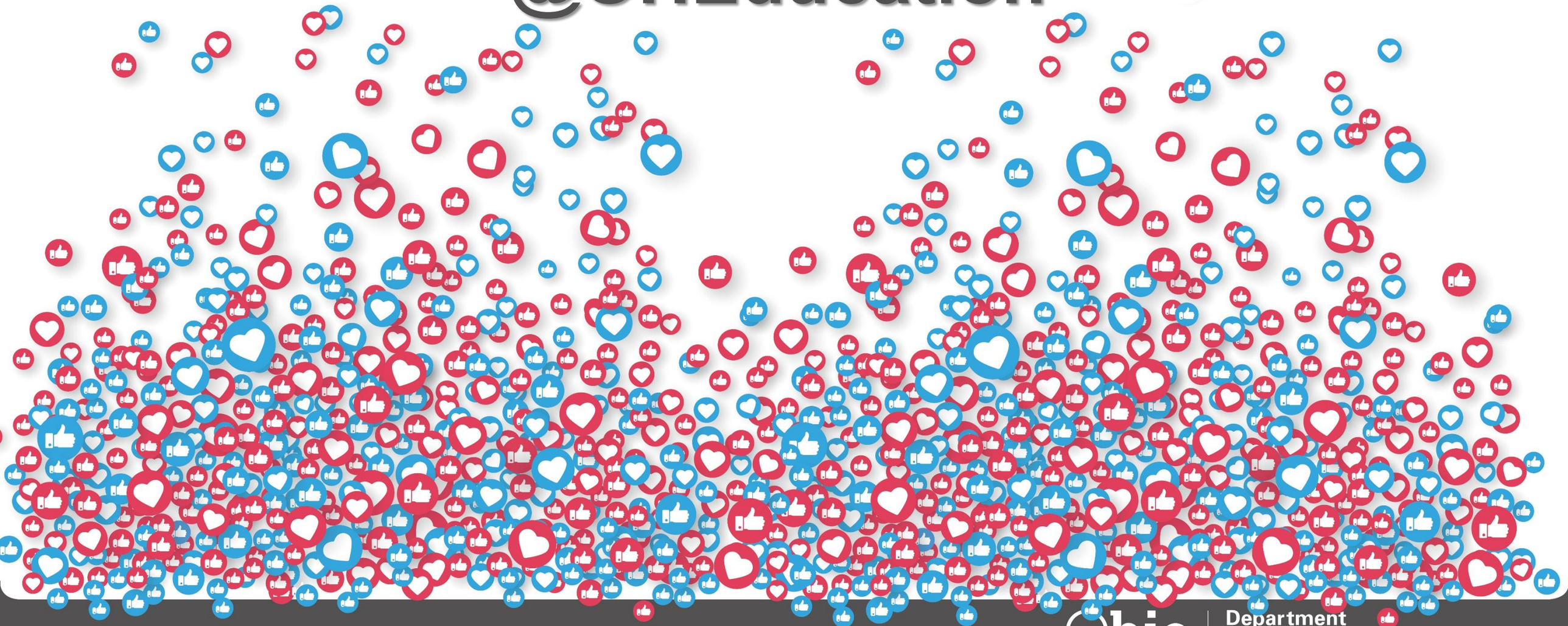
Your Questions

Other ARP ESSER Grants

- **ARP IDEA Part B Special Education** – Contact the ARP IDEA consultant listed in the LEA's CCIP address book

- **ARP Homeless** – Contact the Office of Whole Child Supports ARPhomeless@education.ohio.gov

@OHEducation



Ohio Department of Education

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Celebrate educators!

#OhioLovesTeachers

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