CCIP Note #565

Re: Upcoming Required Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Reporting: Stronger Connections and Education Stabilization Fund Reporting (ESSER, GEER and EANS)
Date: January 9, 2025
To: Superintendents, Treasurers, Authorized Representatives, Fiscal Representatives and Funding Application Contacts of ESSER, ESSER State Activities, GEER and EANS Grantees

FISCAL YEAR 2024 (FY24) EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND (ESF) AND STRONGER CONNECTIONS ANNUAL REPORTING

The U.S. Department of Education provided guidance on annual reporting requirements for states to report expenditures for Education Stabilization Funds (ESF) grants and the Stronger Connections grant. Educational organizations that were awarded these grants must annually report on the uses of those funds in accordance with the grant assurances signed by the organization. Below are the timeframes for each survey:

Upcoming annual reporting timeframes:

- *Stronger Connections Grant:*
  - Survey Open: January 13, 2025
  - Survey Close: February 14, 2025
  - Period Survey Covers: FY24 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)
- *Education Stabilization Fund (ESSER, GEER, and EANS):*
  - Survey Open: January 21, 2025
  - Survey Close: March 31, 2025
  - Period Survey Covers: FY24 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

On the opening dates listed above for each survey, the Authorized Representative, Fiscal Representative, and District Contacts for the related grants will receive an email from datacollections@ohio.k12.help. This is the reporting mechanism for the collection of ESF and Stronger Connections.

In preparation for the data collection survey, grant recipients are encouraged to review the requirements and begin collecting any applicable data. These requirements are based on current guidance from the U.S. Department of Education. The data collection survey will be based on these requirements and any additional guidance from the U.S. Department of Education. Please see survey questions in the guidance documents linked in the resources section below.

ESF GRANTS

For ESF reporting, award recipients will be responsible for providing the requested information only for the grants they have received from the following list:

- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER I) Fund
- CRSSA Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) Fund
- ESSER II State Activity Grants
    - ESSER II State Activity Supplement
    - Innovative Workforce Incentive Program 2
    - Innovative Workforce Incentive Program
    - Middle Mile ITC
- American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER)
- ARP ESSER Learning Loss State Activities
    - ARP ESSER Extended Learning and Recovery
    - ARP ESSER RemotEDx Exchange
    - ARP ESSER RemotEDx Support Squad
    - ARP ESSER Student Readiness Supports
    - Battelle for Kids
    - Boys and Girls Club
    - HQIM – Training & Support to ESCs
    - Libraries Accelerating Learning
    - Literacy: Adolescent Literacy
    - Literacy: ESCs to Support Structured Literacy
    - Literacy: Reaching All Students
    - Math HS Pathways
    - Mid-Size Urban Support
    - Ohio Personalized Learning Network (ESC Support)
    - Ohio Personalized Learning Network
    - PBS In-Home Learning
    - Statewide Tutoring – IHE
    - STEM Education
    - Strengths Collaborative (NEW)
- ARP ESSER After School State Activities
    - ARP ESSER After School – Create
    - ARP ESSER After School – Expand
- ARP ESSER Summer Program State Acts
    - ARP ESSER Summer Program – Create
    - ARP ESSER Summer Program – Expand
- ARP ESSER Other State Activities
    - Amplifying Ohio's Pathways to Graduation
    - ARP ESSER State Activity Supplement
    - Attendance RDL Supports
    - Cleveland Browns Stay in the Game

    - Connectivity Champions
    - Diversifying Educator Pipeline
    - Family & Community Partner Liaisons
    - Harvard Proving Ground Stay in the Game
    - Leading Men Fellowship
    - P-20 Regional Partnerships Workforce
    - Statewide Tutoring Coordinator Grant
    - Whole Child Network and Pilot Projects
- Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) II Fund
    - National Aviation Hall of Fame
    - School Based Health Capital

For those recipients that received the Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) program, there will be no survey to complete to fulfill reporting requirements.

GUIDANCE ON RECORDING A NOTICE OF FEDERAL INTEREST (NFI) AND REPORTING ON REAL PROPERTY

On March 21, 2024, the United States Department of Education released guidance regarding recording and reporting requirements for Federal funds used to improve facilities, including school buildings. All grantees and subgrantees that have a renovation, major remodeling, construction (34 CFR §222.176(a)), or real property project (2 CFR § 200.1) in any Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) or Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) grant are subject to this recording and reporting.

REQUIREMENTS TO RECORD A NOTICE OF FEDERAL INTEREST (NFI)

Grantees who spent an excess of $1 million on a singular renovation, major remodeling, construction, or real property project in any Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund or Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) fund are required to record the Notice of Federal Interest (NFI) to their local jurisdiction by **January 28, 2025**. LEAs should contact their county recorder and/or legal counsel for further information on filing the NFI.

REQUIREMENTS ON REAL PROPERTY REPORTING

The reporting requirement (2 CFR § 200.330), set by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), provides that grant and subgrant recipients must report annually, for **at least the first 15 years**, on the status of the real property in which the Federal government has made a monetary investment and therefore has an ongoing interest. DEW will be releasing a survey and instructions in the coming months to all entities subject to this requirement.

TRAINING AND SUPPORT

The Office of Federal Programs will be providing joint training and support for both the Stronger Connections Grant and ESF reporting.

Education Stabilization Fund and Stronger Connections Reporting Webinar

- January 16, 2025, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Annual Reporting Open Office Hours

Last Wednesday of each month starting on January 29, 2025. Click the below links to join:

- Wednesday, January 29, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM (ESF and Stronger Connections)
- Wednesday, February 26, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
- Wednesday, March 26, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

CONTACTS

For questions on ESF annual reporting, please contact ESFannualreporting@education.ohio.gov. For questions on Stronger Connections Grant annual reporting, please contact strongerconnections@education.ohio.gov. For questions on Notice of Federal Interest and Real Property reporting, please contact federalprograms@education.ohio.gov.

RESOURCES

- FY24 ESSER, GEER and EANS Reporting Guidance
- FY24 ESF Reporting FAQ
- FY24 ESSER and GEER Expenditures
- FY24 Stronger Connections Reporting Guidance
- FY24 Stronger Connections Grant FAQ
- FY24 Stronger Connections Reporting Survey User Guide