



# ESSER III Fund Overview

Helping Our Unique Populations Excel (HOPE) Meeting  
May 3, 2021



# ESSER III Overview Update



## Welcome !

Please visit

[www.azed.gov/CARES/ESSER](http://www.azed.gov/CARES/ESSER)

for all grant and program  
resources and guidance  
documents

If you have any questions,  
please contact us at:

[ESSER@azed.gov](mailto:ESSER@azed.gov)



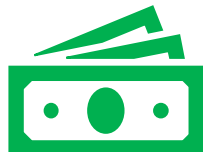
# COVID-19 Recovery: The CARES, CRRSA and American Rescue Plan (ARP) Acts

- The **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act** was the original COVID-19 relief package, and was enacted on March 27, 2020
- The **Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act** was enacted on December 27, 2020
- The **American Rescue Plan (ARP)** was enacted on March 11, 2021
- These acts included funding for the **Education Stabilization Fund (ESF)**, which has provided resources across three main education support programs:

Education Stabilization Fund (ESF)		
CARES Act (\$30.75 billion)	CRRSA Act (\$82 billion)	American Rescue Plan (\$165 billion)
ESSER - \$13.5 billion	ESSER II - \$54.3 billion	ESSER III - \$122.8 billion <i>+ \$800M reserved for homeless children &amp; youth</i>
GEER - \$3 billion	GEER II - \$4.05 billion <i>(includes EANS I - \$2.75B)</i>	EANS II - \$2.75 billion <i>(Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools, previously part of GEER II)</i>
HEER - \$14.2 billion	HEER II - \$22.7 billion	HEER III - \$39.6 billion



# Timeline for Recovery Funds: ESSER I, II & III



All ESSER Fund grants allow for the reimbursement of allowable expenses included in an approved application back to **March 13, 2020**

**\$277M**

**ESSER I**

**September 30, 2022**

**\$1.14B**

**ESSER II**

**September 30, 2023**

**\$2.6B**

**ESSER III**

**September 30, 2024**



**Arizona is projected to receive a total of \$4 billion through the ESSER Fund program to support local and statewide COVID-19 recovery efforts**



# Breakdown of Arizona's ESSER III Award

<b>Total ESSER III Award</b>	<b>\$2,582,098,697.00</b>
<b>Total SEA Admin (0.5%)</b>	<b>\$12,910,493.49</b>
<b>Total SEA Activities (9.5%)</b>	<b>\$180,746,908.79</b>
<i>Required SEA Reservation to Address Learning Loss (5%)</i>	\$129,104,934.85
<i>Required SEA Reservation for Summer Enrichment Programs (1%)</i>	\$25,820,986.97
<i>Required SEA Reservation for Comprehensive Afterschool Programs (1%)</i>	\$25,820,986.97
<i>Total Amount for SEA Discretionary Activities (2.5%)</i>	\$64,552,467.43
<b>Total LEA Assistance (90%)</b>	<b>\$2,323,888,827.30</b>
<i>Required SEA Reservation to Address Learning Loss (20%)</i>	<b>\$464,777,765.46</b>
<i>Total Amount for LEA Discretionary Activities (80%)</i>	\$1,859,111,061.84

**Period of Availability: March 13, 2020 – September 30, 2024**



# Summary of ESSER Fund Eligible Activities

- Any activity authorized by **federal education programs**
- **Coordination** of COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts
- Training and **professional development** for LEA staff
- Purchasing educational **technology** (including hardware, software, and connectivity)
- Providing **mental health services** and supports
- Planning and implementing **summer learning**
- Addressing **learning loss**
- **Student attendance and improving student engagement** in distance education
- **School facility** repairs and improvements to reduce risk of virus
- Implementing **public health protocols** in line with CDC guidance for the safe reopening and operation of schools
- Other activities necessary to **maintain LEA operations** and services and employ existing LEA staff



# Summary of ESSER Fund Eligible Activities

- ESSER III – just like ESSER I & II funds - are **highly flexible**, and are designed to help address local **recovery efforts** relative to responding to **COVID-19**
- ESSER III Funds can be used **throughout the LEA**, in **all schools** and in support of **all students and staff**
- There are **no equitable services requirements** for private schools
- **Supplement and not supplant** requirements **do not apply** to LEA use of ESSER Fund monies. However, **EDGAR** and **UGG** apply (including the requirement that spending be **reasonable and necessary**). LEAs must also continue to comply with local ESEA and IDEA Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements



# NEW: ESSER III SEA and LEA Required Set Asides

## ADE Required Set Asides

Address Learning Loss	5%
Summer Learning or Summer Enrichment Programs	1%
Comprehensive Afterschool Programs	1%



## LEA Required Set Aside

Address Learning Loss	20%
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### *Activities and interventions may include:*

- Summer Learning or Summer Enrichment Programs
- Extended Day Programs
- Comprehensive Afterschool Programs
- Extended School Year Programs

All activities and interventions must be **evidence-based**, respond to students' **academic, social, and emotional needs** and **address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on subgroups**, including each major racial and ethnic group, children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, and migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care





# NEW: ESSER III

## LEA ESSER III Plan Requirements

**LEAs must develop a plan for their local use of ESSER III funds that must describe:**

- The extent to which and **how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies** that are, to the greatest extent practicable, **consistent with the most recent CDC guidance** on reopening schools, in order **to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning**
- **How the LEA will use their 20% required set-aside funds**
- **How the LEA will spend its 80% discretionary funds**
- How the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, **including but not limited to the 20% required set-aside interventions to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted** by the **COVID-19** pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students



# NEW: ESSER III

## LEA ESSER III Plan Requirements

- LEAs must engage in **meaningful consultation with stakeholders**, and **provide the public the opportunity to provide input and take such input into account** in the development of their plan
  
- **Stakeholders must include:**
  - Students; families; school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions; and
  
  - To the extent present in or served by the LEA: Tribes; civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students; and



# NEW: ESSER III LEA ESSER III Plan Requirements

## ➤ The LEA's plan must also be:

- In an understandable and uniform format
- To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent
- Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent
- Be made publicly available on the LEA's website

***(NOTE: This is very similar to local Title I-A plan requirements)***

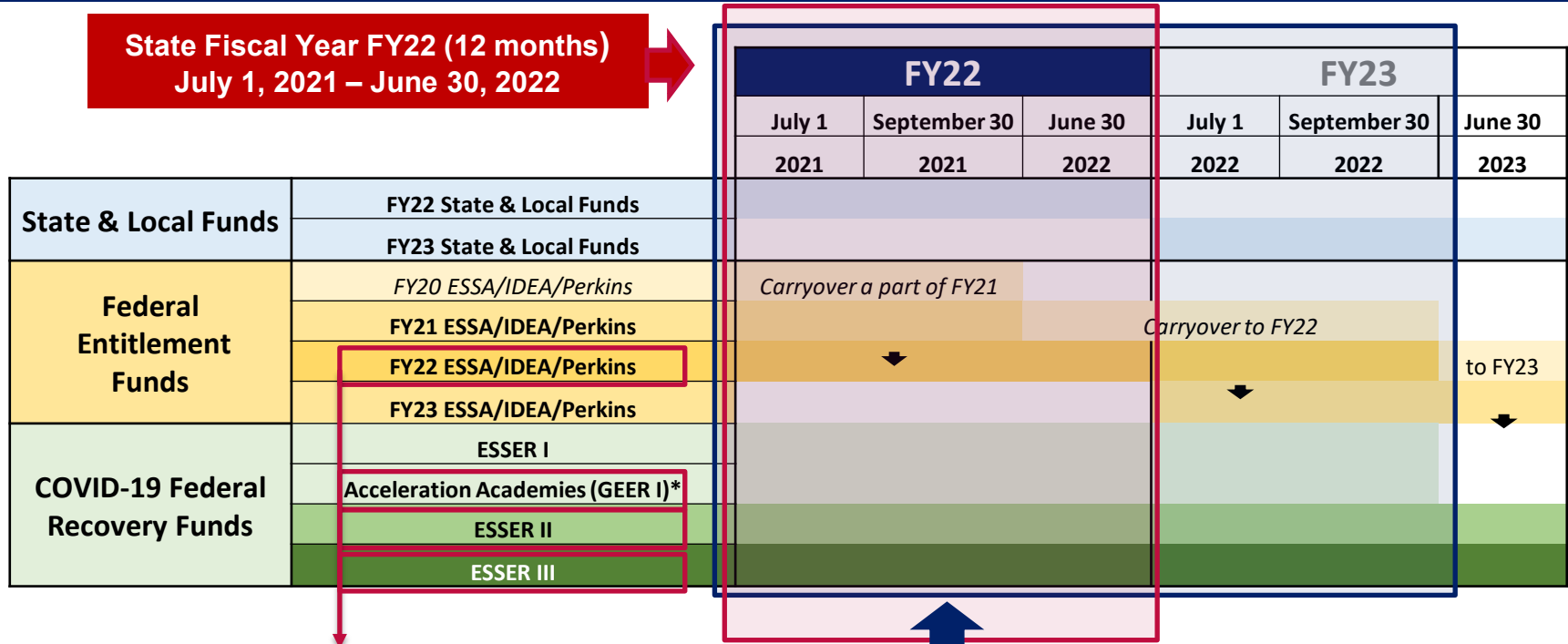


# Federal Entitlement & Recovery Funds Timeline

		FY20	FY21		FY22		FY23		FY24		FY25	
		March 13 2020	July 2020	September 2020	July 2021	September 2021	July 2022	September 2022	July 2023	September 2023	July 2024	September 2024
<b>Federal Entitlement Funds</b>	FY20 ESSA/IDEA/Perkins				Carryover to FY21							
	FY21 ESSA/IDEA/Perkins					↓	Carryover to FY22					
	FY22 ESSA/IDEA/Perkins							↓	Carryover to FY23			
	FY23 ESSA/IDEA/Perkins									↓	Carryover to FY24	
	FY24 ESSA/IDEA/Perkins											↓
	FY25 ESSA/IDEA/Perkins											
<b>COVID-19 Federal Recovery Funds</b>	CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)				(12/31/21)							
	ESSER I											
	Acceleration Academies (GEER I)											
	ESSER II											
	ESSER III											



# Federal Entitlement & Recovery Funds Timeline



**State Fiscal Year FY22 (12 months)**  
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

**NEW APPLICATIONS**

**Federal Fiscal Year FY2021 (15 months)**  
July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022\*  
(\* approved carryover available for additional 12 months through incorporation into FY23 project)



# Next Steps

## Key Takeaways

- ✓ ESSER III has new state Maintenance of Effort, and new state and LEA Maintenance of Equity requirements
- ✓ ESSER III includes new required set asides for both ADE and LEA. These will help guide state and local decision making for leveraging these new funds to **accelerate and enrich learning** and **increase learning opportunities** – particularly for our most vulnerable populations
- ✓ The ESSER funds (I-III) represent a generational opportunity to make strategic, sustainable investments to help address systemic inequities and unleash innovation and creativity to **transform** teaching and learning to realize our shared vision of ***Equity for All Students to Achieve their Full Potential***



# Next Steps

ADE is committed to working collaboratively to support schools to use local, state and federal entitlement and recovery funds effectively and strategically to meet immediate needs and to make thoughtful, sustainable investments in support of ongoing local recovery efforts



# Thank You!



**Peter Laing** - Policy Advisor

**Callie Kozlak** - Associate Superintendent, Policy & Government Relations

Please visit  
[www.azed.gov/CARES/ESSER](http://www.azed.gov/CARES/ESSER)  
for all grant and program resources and  
guidance documents

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