ESSER III Update

ESSER III Overview Update

Welcome!

Please visit
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

Arizona
Department of Education

ADE ESSER Roadmap

ADE is also granted discretionary authority over subsets of the funds to make critical investments that address emergency needs for education across the state

Overall, the goal of these dollars is to support communities recovering from COVID-19, position our state's educational system to support student success, and ensure Arizona has a 21st-century ready workforce

ADE has developed a roadmap for the distribution of these funds that includes:
➢ Available funding and timelines
➢ Strategic priority areas and indicators of progress
➢ Funding announcements to-date
➢ Rubric to guide funding decision
➢ Assurances and Obligations for Receipt of Funds
➢ Key Dates and Timeframes
➢ Stakeholder Engagement and Opportunities for Input

Please visit our website at https://www.azed.gov/covid-19/esser-roadmap for more details

ADE ESSER Fund Projects

How ADE Makes Allocation Decisions

Our goal is to allocate federal recovery dollars from the SEA's reserve to support emergency needs statewide strategically and equitably in order to reach students and communities in each of Arizona's fifteen counties. Where possible, we have taken advantage of the opportunity to leverage these funds alongside existing investments

Each of ADE's allocations follows a rubric to ensure we:

➤ Support students and communities most impacted by COVID-19
➤ Expand schools' access to evidence-based programs and trainings
➤ Address multiple factors that impact students' academics, including:

- Social-emotional wellbeing
- Educator workforce shortages
- Family internet connectivity

➤ Measure success and impact of these investments

Please visit our website at https://www.azed.gov/esser-setaside for more details regarding current ESSER funded projects

USED & CDC Resources Supporting Safe Reopening and Sustained Operations of Schools

➢ **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** and the **US Department of Education (USED)** have released the following primary guidance and support materials to support the safe reopening of schools:

✓ **CDC's operational strategy** can be found at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html

✓ **Volume 1** of USED's **COVID-19 Handbook** on school reopening can be found at: https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening.pdf

✓ **Volume 2** of USED's **COVID-19 Handbook** on school reopening and meeting all students' needs can be found at: https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening-2.pdf

✓ USED's **new** ESSER and GEER Funds **FAQ guidance** on allowable uses of funds and grant 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%**

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 student populations,** 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

- ESSER III has new **LEA ESSER III Plan requirements** that must be met as a condition of receiving ESSER III funds through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act:

NEW LEA ESSER III Plan

- ✓ How the LEA will **spend their 80% discretionary funds** and the **new required 20% set aside** funds

- ✓ How the LEA will address the **academic impact of lost instructional time**, will respond to the **academic, social, emotional, and mental health** needs of **all students** – *particularly for vulnerable student populations*

- ✓ **The extent to which and how** the LEA is using their ESSER funds to **implement strategies consistent with CDC guidance** to support **reopening schools for in-person learning**

- ✓ **Posted on the LEA's website** in an understandable / approachable format for the public

Required Stakeholder Input

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

Please share your thoughts and examples:

- ✓ What are some ways that **schools** could best use their **ESSER funds** to support **Native American students and Tribal Communities**?

- ✓ What are some ways that **ADE** can continue to **support schools to use their ESSER funds** to support **Native American students and Tribal Communities**?

- ✓ Do you have suggestions for **how ADE can best use SEA set aside funds** to **increase learning opportunities** (address learning loss), **summer enrichment** and **comprehensive afterschool programs** for **Native American students statewide**? This could be through a combination of grants, contracts and partnership opportunities

Thank You!

Peter Laing, *Policy Advisor*

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