

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund American Rescue Plan

FUNDING ORGANIZATION

Department of Education, Office of Elementary & Secondary Education (OESE)

PURPOSE OF THE GRANT

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund American (ESSER ARP) provides funding to state educational agencies to assist local school districts in addressing the impact of COVID-19 on their student populations.

ESSER was first funded under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) and was funded again under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRSAA). That round of funding was called ESSER II.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application deadlines for ESSER ARP have not been released. Once it is released, state educational agencies (SEAS) apply on behalf of the school districts within their state. 90% of the funding a state receives must be distributed to schools. SEAS can distribute funding through a competitive grant application process or direct aid to school districts. A SEA can retain up to 10% for state-level projects and initiatives. Based on the timeline of ESSER ARP, funding could be distributed starting Mid-April.

HOW THIS FUNDING CAN BE USED

ESSER ARP retains the same guidelines that governed the use of ESSER II funding, allowing funds to be used to prevent, prepare, and respond to issues related to COVID-19. This allowed school districts to use the funds to upgrade their IT infrastructure, acquire virtual/distance learning platforms, and other IT efforts needed to support virtual/distance learning. It is expected that school districts will also use ESSER ARP funding to support virtual/distance learning. Until 100% in school attendance is possible, many school districts will have to offer a virtual learning option that will require a greater level of IT investment than what existed before COVID-19.

TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE

ESSER ARP has \$122 billion in total funding to distribute. The chart below shows the state-by-state funding breakdown. Note, a SEA can provide 100% of the funds it receives to local school districts.

STATE	American Rescue Plan ESSER Fund Allocation
ALABAMA	\$2,020,070,466.00
ALASKA	\$358,707,134.00
ARIZONA	\$2,582,098,697.00
ARKANSAS	\$1,253,227,833.00
CALIFORNIA	\$15,068,884,546.00
COLORADO	\$1,166,328,632.00
CONNECTICUT	\$1,105,919,874.00
DELAWARE	\$410,733,965.00

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$386,317,154.00
FLORIDA	\$7,038,246,438.00
GEORGIA	\$4,249,371,244.00
HAWAII	\$412,328,764.00
IDAHO	\$439,942,041.00
ILLINOIS	\$5,054,988,054.00
INDIANA	\$1,994,734,056.00
IOWA	\$774,516,216.00
KANSAS	\$830,585,182.00
KENTUCKY	\$2,084,773,157.00
LOUISIANA	\$2,605,463,325.00
MAINE	\$411,303,282.00
MARYLAND	\$1,951,136,802.00
MASSACHUSETTS	\$1,830,128,073.00
MICHIGAN	\$3,719,833,128.00
MINNESOTA	\$1,320,645,901.00
MISSISSIPPI	\$1,627,197,854.00
MISSOURI	\$1,956,529,215.00
MONTANA	\$382,019,236.00
NEBRASKA	\$545,908,619.00
NEVADA	\$1,071,998,392.00
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$350,501,633.00
NEW JERSEY	\$2,764,587,703.00
NEW MEXICO	\$979,056,256.00
NEW YORK	\$8,988,780,836.00
NORTH CAROLINA	\$3,599,191,706.00
NORTH DAKOTA	\$305,266,879.00
OHIO	\$4,472,067,097.00
OKLAHOMA	\$1,493,582,570.00
OREGON	\$1,121,028,734.00
PENNSYLVANIA	\$4,996,953,151.00
PUERTO RICO	\$2,965,938,760.00
RHODE ISLAND	\$415,015,610.00
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$2,112,051,487.00
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$382,019,236.00
TENNESSEE	\$2,487,638,081.00
TEXAS	\$12,418,588,778.00
UTAH	\$615,526,070.00
VERMONT	\$285,164,138.00
VIRGINIA	\$2,109,490,751.00
WASHINGTON	\$1,852,501,071.00

WEST VIRGINIA	\$761,417,928.00
WISCONSIN	\$1,540,784,854.00
WYOMING	\$303,709,391.00

HOW TO ENGAGE CUSTOMERS WITH THIS FUNDING

ESSER ARP funding is blanket aid meant to meet broad needs. This means that local school districts will be the drivers of how this funding is used in each state. The conversation around ESSER ARP should begin with these customers. It should center on how they are looking to deliver education and other services and what solutions could assist. Each state's process for distributing its ESSER ARP funds will be different. Some will conduct competitive grant applications, provide direct proportional aid, or some combination of the two. Customers in IT, administrative, and finance leadership positions at the district and institutional levels will be likely already very aware of this funding and the processes for requesting it. These POCS will also be the ones that direct what the ESSER ARP funding is requested for and spent on at the local level. Aligning your solutions with their requirements will ensure the best chance of successfully utilizing this funding.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

[Department of Education ESSER Overview Page](#)