



## **Briefing on America Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III) and ESSER I and II**

### Funding Information for ESSER III

- Enacted on 3/11/21
- Funds must be obligated by 9/2024 (includes Tydings Amendment)
- May be used for costs dating back to 3/13/20 when the national emergency was declared
- 90% of a state's total ARP ESSER allocation must be allocated to local education agencies (LEAs)
- \$125 billion for education
- \$8.9 billion to NY
- The state agency must expedite allocating funds to districts no later than 60 days after the State Education Agency (SEA) received the funds (to the extent practicable)
- An LEA that receives their funding they must make its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction publicly available within 30 days of receipt of funds
- ARP ESSER does not require an equitable service requirement to non-public schools for LEAs
- LEAs must reserve at least 20% of funds to address learning loss through evidence bases interventions.

### Eligible Uses of Funding

- Must ensure that interventions respond to social, emotional and academic needs,

- Must address disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups,
- The use of these funds are very flexible!! Types of eligible expenses:

Training and professional development
Purchasing supplies to minimize spread of infectious diseases
Improve indoor air quality
Repair and improve school facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission (enlarge a gym to enable social distancing)
Pay for staff positions that would be cut due to declining enrollment
Plan for or implement activities during long-term closures
Purchase educational technology
Provide mental health services and supports (community schools, hiring counselors)
Provide summer learning opportunities
Other activities needed to maintain operation and continuity of services
Hiring new staff and avoiding layoffs
Transportation
High quality instructional materials
Broadband and device access
Capital expenditure under federal rules (“expenditures to acquire capital assets or expenditures, additions, improvement, modification, replacement, rearrangements, renovations or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value”)
Develop strategies and implement public health protocols (COVID-19 testing)

Other Conditions for ARP ESSER Funding

- Funds to local school districts are distributed through the Title 1 formula, however the funds are not restricted to only Title 1 allowable costs and may be used for all schools in the district,
- Includes a new concept *Maintenance of Equity-states* cannot reduce their FY 2022 and 2023 school district per pupil funding or per-pupil staff FTEs, at the most economically disadvantaged quartile of schools at disproportionately high rates,
- Will be important for districts to pace spending and come up with a spending plan, and
- May want to think in term of one-time expenses because funding must be obligated by 9/24 (stipends for tutoring, contractors, one-time hazard page, facility upgrades, one- time summer school.

## Funding Information for ESSER I and II

\$4.322 billion to NY- ESSER II (CRRSA) This funding was passed at the federal level in 12/20. The allocation for NY for the ESSERF portion of the total allocation was \$ 4.0 billion, while the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund was \$323 million.

\$ 1.164 billion to NY – ESSER I This funding was passed at the federal level in 3/20. The allocation for NY for the ESSER portion of the total allocation was \$ 1.037, while the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) was \$164.2 million.

ESSER II and III will not be ready for release until April as NYSED must submit their application when updated information on new charter schools becomes available.

## Other new funding sources in ARP Related to Students and Children

- \$7.2 billion increase to the E-Rate program is included in ARP , which will support the provision of broadband and device access for disconnected students.
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- \$10 billion for schools to do in-school COVID testing- NY is targeted to receive \$335 million.
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- \$800 million is included in ARP to support school participation of children and youth experiencing homelessness, including through wrap-around services.
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- credit for children under the age of six and to \$3,000 tax credit for children ages 6 to 17 is included in ARP.
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- \$10 million for the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, \$30 million for Project AWARE, and \$20 million for youth suicide prevention
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- 15% increase in SNAP benefits through September 2021; funding for the fruit/vegetable outreach and innovation in Women Infants Children (WIC); \$1 billion of additional funding for nutrition programs in the territories; and \$25 million for SNAP online purchasing and technology improvements.
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- \$1 billion for Head Start in included in ARP
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- \$15 billion for the Child Care Development Grant is included in ARP

## Sources

Roza, Marguerite “The New ARP Federal Funding Package and What it Means for Districts”  
Edunomics Lab, Georgetown University 3/18/21

Frequently Asked Questions About the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund  
USDE <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund>

Congressional Research Service 3/9/21 Memo “Revised Estimated FY 2021 Grants to States and  
Institutions of Higher Education Under the Education Stabilization Fund Based on the Senate-Passed  
Substitute to H.R.1319”

New York State Education Department memos and announcements