

# Application and Reporting Requirements: Federal Stimulus Funds & State Foundation Aid



*Updated May 25, 2021*

## CARES Act funding (March 2020)

Applications have been submitted.

## Federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA Act) Funding (December 2020)

May 10: Applications opened

LEAS must submit combined funding application for both ESSR 2 and GEER 2 funding by June 15 (if the LEA has an allocation). Budget extensions may be given with approval from NYSED for specific circumstances.

More information and the recent NYSED webinar can be found here:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/funding/crrsa/home.html>.

## American Rescue Plan (ARP) – (March 2021)

Two-part application process

**Part 1:** Signed assurances must be submitted by May 24.

Once NYSED receives signed assurances, LEAs will receive an automated email notice letting them know they can begin obligating funds.

**Part 2:** Full application and budget will be due in the coming weeks. NYSED will let LEAs know when to submit.

- ARP also has LEA Maintenance of Equity Requirement. Guidance from USDE on this is forthcoming.
- 20% of this funding must be used to address learning loss. LEAs will need to state how 20% of their allocation will be used for this when they complete their application.
- In addition, some districts will also have access to three different funding streams to support summer programming, after-school programming, as well as additional supports to address learning loss. An application for these funding streams is also forthcoming.

Additional requirements:

- The ARP legislation requires districts to develop a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

- NYSED indicated in a recent webinar that it will permit previously developed reopening plans to satisfy this requirement.
  - Plans must be revised every six months until September 30, 2023.
- The 2021-2022 enacted state budget requires that on or before July 1, 2021, any LEA receiving ARP funding must post on their website a plan by school year of how such funds will be expended and how the LEA will prioritize spending on non-recurring expenses in the following areas:
  - Safely returning students to in-person instruction;
  - Maximizing in-person instruction time;
  - Operating schools and meeting the needs of students;
  - Purchasing educational technology;
  - Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the impacts of interrupted instruction and learning loss and the impacts on low-income students, children with disabilities, English language learners, and students experiencing homelessness;
  - Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs;
  - Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs; and
  - Supporting early childhood education.
- In their ARP funding plans, LEAs must identify:
  - Programs utilizing ARP funding that are expected to continue beyond the availability of the federal funds; and
  - Local funds that will be used to maintain such programs in order to minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs.
- Before posting the plan, LEAs must seek public comment from parents, teachers and other stakeholders on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

## State Foundation Aid

The 2021-2022 enacted state budget included language that requires for the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, each school district receiving a foundation aid increase of more than 10% OR \$10,000,000 in a school year must post to the district website prior to July 1 of each school year how the funds will be used to address student performance and need, including but not be limited to:

- Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap;
- Reducing class sizes;
- Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas;
- Addressing student social-emotional health; and
- Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities; and students experiencing homelessness.

Prior to posting such a plan, each school district must seek public comment from parents, teachers and other stakeholders on the plan and take such comments into account in developing the plan.