

ESSER III

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Working Together for Student Success



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A Series of ESSERS...

- ESSER II was authorized in 2nd stimulus bill (CRRSA), ESSER III was authorized in 3rd American Rescue Plan (ARP)
- Great deal of overlap with CARES Act funding, allowability, etc.
- ESSER II provides over **\$888 million**; ESSER III **\$1.9 billion**
- ESSER II & III are formula funding based off an LEA's proportional share of Title I funding
- ESSER II & III **do not include an equitable share requirement**
- [Emergency Assistance for Non-public Schools \(EANS\)](#) is a separate funding stream and LEAs are not responsible for administering



ARP

Summary of American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER III Statute:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text#toc-HC9CE46A721204EB081A88ACD8FB287D5>



ESSER III

What's new?

- Grantees must reserve 20% of their ESSER III allocation for **addressing learning loss** through evidence-based interventions (afterschool, extended learning time, accelerating learning) that respond to students' **academic, social, and emotional needs**, including **special populations**.
- Within 30 days of **receiving funds**, grantees must offer for public comment and post on their websites a plan to return to in-person instruction.
 - Must include public comment and demonstrate that this was taken into account
 - Grantees may use previous plans that meet these requirements
 - See additional guidance on requirements regarding return to in-person instruction plans.
- **Maintenance of Equity (MEQ)**. We are awaiting guidance, but LEAs must not disproportionately underfund nor understaff (FTEs) high-poverty schools.



ESSER III

What's new in the ESSER III application?

The ESSER III application will include the following elements that are required by the US Department of Education:

- LEAs will assure that they have sought meaningful consultation from stakeholder groups in the development of their ESSER III plan;
- Describe how the LEA will comply with CDC recommended mitigation strategies to reopen schools and maintain their safe operating status;
- Describe how the LEA will use the 20% set-aside to address learning loss through evidence-based extended school day or school year programs, afterschool programs, or summer programs; and
- Describe how the LEA will target the evidence-based interventions to support students who are underserved or were most significantly impacted by COVID-19.



ESSER III

What is required in the return to in-person instruction plan?

The US Department of Education released the following requirements on April 23. An LEA must include specific information that addresses how it will maintain student and staff health and safety and how it will ensure continuity of services for academic and social-emotional needs, as well as how it meets CDC guidance, **to the extent practicable**, regarding the following:

- Universal and correct wearing of masks.
- Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing.
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state, local, territorial, or tribal health departments.
- Diagnostic and screening testing.
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
- Coordination with state and local health officials.



ESSER III

What is required in the return to in-person instruction plan... continued:

- The plan must be updated no less than every six months and must include public input when revisions are necessary. If an LEA already has a plan in place that doesn't meet the new requirements, it must revise the plan within six months.
- The plan for safe return to public instruction should be clear, in a uniform format, and available to all, which may require written or oral translations for non-English speakers or providing the document in an accessible format for individuals with disabilities.
- LEAs will maintain documentation locally and IDOE will monitor for all requirements as part of ESSER III subgrantee monitoring.



ESSER III

Return to in-person instruction plan... continued:

- The plan will not be submitted to IDOE and there is no required template.
- Please refer to the ESSER III FAQ for additional information on plan requirements.
- More information regarding IDOE monitoring for ESSER III will be released in the future.



ESSER III Timeline



CARES, ESSER II , ESSER III

CARES Act	Equitable share; be mindful of MOE, SNS	3/13/2020-9/30/2022	Allows for a wide range of activities (any ESSA, IDEA, Perkin, McKinney-Vento program), COVID-related expenses
ESSER II (ESSER III)	No equitable share; be mindful of MOE, SNS, (MEQ)	3/13/2020-9/30/2023 (ESSER III 3/13/2020 9/30/2024)	(ESSER III 20% set-aside), then All CARES Act activities, plus NEW activities to reduce virus spread, improve air quality, & accelerated learning, including special populations



ESSER III Grant Admin Information

ESSER III CFDA Number: 84.425U

ESSER III Federal Award ID Number: S425U210013

ESSER III Fund Number: 7923

Receipt Number: 4990

Administrative Costs: LEAs may budget for reasonable admin expenses

ESSER III Anticipated Application Open Date: *May 24*

ESSER III Anticipated Application Due Date: *June 25*

Date to post return to in-person instruction plans: No later than June 24, 2021.

Application Method: [Title I Application Center](#)



Special Considerations

- Amount of funding may pose a challenge to spend funding effectively and in a timely manner
- **MOE:** ESSER II & III do not have an MOE requirement for LEAs. Be mindful of maintaining local effort (MOE) and **maintain state and local expenditures** to avoid MOE issues in other grants.
- **SNS:** ESSER II & III do not have a SNS provision. Be mindful of local methodology and **maintain that methodology** to avoid SNS issues in other grants.
- ESSER II grant period is **3/13/20-9/30/23, liquidate by 12/15/23**
- ESSER III grant period is **3/13/20-9/30/24, liquidate by 12/15/24**



Allowable Uses

All CARES Act allowable activities (all ESSA program grants, IDEA, Perkins), plus:

NEW in ESSER II: Activities related to **reducing virus transmission**, reducing **other health hazards**

NEW in ESSER II: Improving indoor air quality

NEW in ESSER II: Addressing learning loss and accelerated learning (including special populations), administering high-quality assessments, improving engagement in distance education, **evidence-based interventions to meet “comprehensive needs of students”**

NEW In ESSER III: LEAs must budget no less than **20% of ESSER III funds** toward learning loss specifically, then may budget for other allowable expenditures, which overlap with CARES and ESSER II. **Your budget for learning loss must be complete prior to receiving final grant approval.**

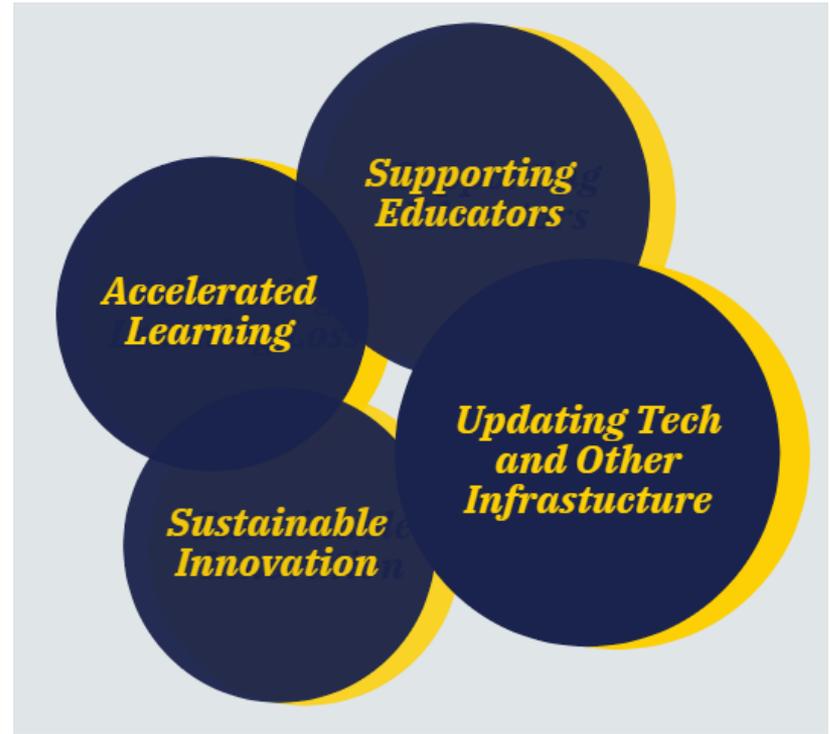


Allowable Uses

ESSER II & III present the opportunity not only to address learning loss but also to think innovatively around the way schools will need to meet the needs of students moving forward.

Visit our [ESSER II and III website](#) for a creative space to help guide ESSER II planning.

Click on each priority area and allowable use for additional ideas, resources, and supporting research.



Allowable Uses

How can ESSER support **afterschool** programming, **continued learning** during summer and intersession, **additional tutoring**, and **early learning** programming in my district to address learning loss and promote youth development?

How can ESSER support **innovative school and curricular designs** to better meet the challenges posed by COVID?

How can ESSER help meet the increased **social/emotional** needs of **students and staff** that have increased due to COVID?

How are we meeting the needs of **special populations** (low income, ELs, SWD, those in foster care, students experiencing homelessness, migrant)?

How can ESSER support **high-quality assessments** for learning and **data analysis** to better identify and meet student needs?



Content-Area Supports

Feel free to start at the [IDOE ESSER II website](#) for additional information and resources. IDOE staff from a variety of offices are here to provide support, guidance, a thought partner, and connect you to resources as you implement ESSER II.

Your federal grant specialist or assigned ESSER II specialist will be happy to connect you to IDOE supports within [Title Grants and Support](#) as well as:

- [Early Learning](#)
- [Afterschool and Out-of-School-Time Programming](#)
- [Office of Student Assessment](#)
- [School Improvement](#)
- [School Safety and Building Security](#)
- [Special Education](#)
- [English Learning, Refugee, and Migrant Education](#)
- [Education for Homeless Children](#)



Application

The ESSER II application mirrors the CARES Act application format.

Anticipated Application Open Date: *Mid May*

Anticipated Application Due Date: *Mid June*

Application walkthrough and FAQ: FAQs are available on the [ESSER webpage](#)

Application Method: [Title I Application Center](#)

- *Ensure staff have adequate Title I App Center login credentials*

Thank You!

Questions?

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