

# Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021

ESSER II

DESE Zoom, January 19, 2021 at noon

## CARES Act (ESSER II Funds) Zoom

Date: January 19, 2021 at noon (will be recorded and posted)

Webpage:

<http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/federal-programs/cares-act>

# Allocations

Allocations for ESSER II funds are posted on the DESE website at

<http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/fiscal-and-administrative-services/lea-federal-funding/allocations>

# Priorities

<b>Learning</b>	<b>Health</b>
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# Five Focus Areas for ESSER II Funds

- ❑ **FOOD SECURITY**

- ❑ **DIRECT STUDENT SUPPORT/CONTINUOUS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, of the LEA, including by:

A yellow rectangular box with the word "NEW" in black, bold, uppercase letters, set against a light gray background with a wavy border.

- (A) Administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students' academic progress and assist educators in meeting students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction.
- (B) Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students.
- (C) Providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment.
- (D) Tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.

- ❑ **TECHNOLOGY**

# Five Focus Areas for ESSER II Funds (cont.)

- ❑ **SYSTEMIC PROCEDURES**

- ❑ **FACILITIES** 

Facilities repairs or upgrades are defined as improvements to indoor air quality or other improvements that limit the spread of a contagious disease (e.g. HVAC upgrades in ventilation and filtration). These improvements should meet the guidance from Arkansas Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation.

1. School Facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.
2. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.

## Funding Codes

ESSER II funding codes are available at

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1q0XmI4SXXVHutYwEy1o3lan642IsJmKXAfy3f91ro80/edit?usp=sharing>

# Timeline

	ESSER I funds	ESSER II funds
Allowable expenditures date (CARES Act)	On or after March 13, 2020	On or after July 1, 2020
Funds must be obligated by	September 30, 2022	September 30, 2023
Funds must be spent by	December 30, 2022	December 30, 2023



# Addendum -

## CARES ACT ADDENDUM: LEA application and assurances for ESSER II Funds

Addendum available	<a href="http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/federal-programs/cares-act">http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/federal-programs/cares-act</a>
Addendum timeline	Completed addendum is due by February 1, 2021
Addendum upload	Completed addendum should be uploaded into ESSER folder in Indistar
Budget	LEA should use approved ESSER II funding codes to develop budget in eFinance

# Five Focus Areas for ESSER II Funds

## ❑ **FOOD SECURITY**

Many districts continued to provide meals to students during this emergency, utilizing different options to best meet the needs of the students, families and communities. It is expected that districts will continue to monitor the needs in their communities and make decisions about how they continue to operate food service programs to ensure food security. The ESSER 2 funds may address district expenses in food service programs due to COVID-19 that have not been covered by other funds or reimbursements, and there may be ongoing costs for districts that continue to operate meal service during school closures, during the summer, or as part of extended learning opportunities.

1. Planning for and coordinating during short-term and long-term closures, including providing and delivering meals to eligible students.

# Five Focus Areas for ESSER II Funds

## ❑ DIRECT STUDENT SUPPORT/CONTINUOUS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Decisions for direct student support and continuous learning opportunities may include supplemental work days or contracted services that help prepare students for grade level learning. Types of support may include, screening/formative/diagnostic assessment tools, interventions, preparation and testing for industry-recognized credentials, online learning modules, targeted summer programs, tutoring, credit recovery, updated core instructional materials, professional development, licenses for learning and simulation software, special population resources for at-risk students, mobile hands-on learning labs, and development of video lessons for skill attainment training. Districts should consider the learning needs of each child and the resources needed to address those needs.

1. Any activity authorized by the ESEA of 1965 reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act, including the Native Hawaiian Education Act, the Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, or subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
2. Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.
3. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities (including compensatory services), English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.
4. Providing mental health services and supports.
5. Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care to address student learning needs exacerbated by school closures.
6. Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, of the LEA, including by:
  - (A) Administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students' academic progress and assist educators in meeting students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction.
  - (B) Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students.
  - (C) Providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment.
  - (D) Tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.

# Five Focus Areas for ESSER II Funds

## ❑ TECHNOLOGY

The value of appropriate technology and use of effective technology tools have become integral components of successful learning plans. Districts should consider technology that supports learning; this should be technology that supports blended learning models and enables students to learn anywhere and for teachers to teach essential standards including but not limited to hardware, software, LMS, CMS, and video communication software. Technology that supports connectivity or adaptation of educational content to synchronous or asynchronous learning would be an appropriate consideration. Internet connectivity purchases should be compliant with the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA). ESSER II funds may be utilized for remote learning, which includes distance education as defined in ESEA section 8101 (14).

1. Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the LEA that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and children with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.

# Support

<b><u>FOOD SECURITY</u></b>	<b><u>DIRECT STUDENT SUPPORT/CONTINUOUS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES</u></b>	<b><u>TECHNOLOGY</u></b>
<p><b>Suzanne Davidson</b> Child Nutrition Unit Arkansas Department of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education 2020 W. 3rd Street, Suite 404 Little Rock, AR 72205 Phone: 501-324-9502 Email: <a href="mailto:Suzanne.Davidson@arkansas.gov">Suzanne.Davidson@arkansas.gov</a></p>	<p><b>Dr. Kiffany Pride</b> Learning Services Arkansas Department of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Four Capitol Mall Little Rock, AR 72201 Phone: 501-682-4265 Email: <a href="mailto:Kiffany.Pride@arkansas.gov">Kiffany.Pride@arkansas.gov</a></p>	<p><b>Don Benton</b> Research and Technology Arkansas Department of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Five Main Place, 423 Main Street Little Rock, AR 72201 Phone: 501-682-3680 Email: <a href="mailto:Don.Benton@arkansas.gov">Don.Benton@arkansas.gov</a></p>

# Five Focus Areas for ESSER II Funds (cont.)

## ❑ SYSTEMIC PROCEDURES

Systemic procedures can be defined as actions or systems that the school district implements in response to the COVID-19 crisis, and for recovery efforts that contribute to health and onsite instruction for students and staff. These funds may be used for practices to lessen short term closures by improving healthy conditions within the school and long-term improvements that improve preparedness and response efforts. Supplemental work days or contracted services may also be utilized to prepare healthy environments for on-site instruction and/or digital learning programs. ESSER 2 funds may be utilized for emergency leave and substitute costs related to COVID-19.

1. Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.
2. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEAs.
3. Training and professional development for staff of the LEA on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
4. Purchasing equipment and supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a LEA.
5. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of LEA with State, local, tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
6. Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency.

# Five Focus Areas for ESSER II Funds (cont.)

## ❑ **FACILITIES**

Facilities repairs and improvements are defined as improvements to indoor air quality or other improvements that limit the spread of a contagious disease (e.g. HVAC upgrades in ventilation and filtration). These improvements should meet the guidance from Arkansas Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation.

1. School Facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.
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# Support

<b><u>SYSTEMIC PROCEDURES</u></b>	<b><u>FACILITIES</u></b>
<p><b>Karli Saracini,</b> Effectiveness &amp; Licensure Arkansas Department of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Four Capitol Mall, Room 403-B Little Rock, AR 72201 Phone: 501-683-4095 Email: <a href="mailto:Karli.Saracini@arkansas.gov">Karli.Saracini@arkansas.gov</a></p>	<p><b>Tim Cain</b> Arkansas Department of Education Division of Public School Academic Facilities &amp; Transportation One Capitol Mall, Suite 4D-200 Little Rock, AR 72201 Email: <a href="mailto:Tim.Cain@arkansas.gov">Tim.Cain@arkansas.gov</a></p> <p><b>Facilities</b> Phone (501) 682-4261 Fax (501) 683-1200</p> <p><b>Transportation</b> Phone (501) 682-4264 Fax (501) 682-6308</p>



# Support

Expenditures must be reasonable, necessary and allocable under section 18003(d) of Division B of the CARES Act.

**Jayne Green**

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# Addendum -

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Send Questions

[ade.esser@arkansas.gov](mailto:ade.esser@arkansas.gov)