

## **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Programs**

### **Use of Funds**

LEAs may use ESSER funds for the broad range of activities listed in section 18003(d) of the CARES Act, section 313(d) of the CRRSA Act, and section 2001(3) of the ARP Act. Although the lists of allowable uses of funds are not identical, any of the ESSER funds (ESSER I, ESSER II, or ARP ESSER) may be used to support all of the allowable uses of funds listed in any of the ESSER programs. Following is a consolidation of the three ESSER programs' list of allowable uses of funds. This list replaces all other previously distributed lists of allowable uses of funds.

1. Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.
2. Any activity authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
3. Any activity authorized by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.
4. Any activity authorized by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.
5. Any activity authorized by subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
6. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies 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.
7. Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools [NOTE: this activity is not listed in the ARP Act, but is still an allowable use of ARP ESSER funds (USED FAQ Guidance May 26, 2021)]
8. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.
9. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.
10. Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
11. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.
12. 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.
13. Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency 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.

14. Providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools.
15. Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing class-room instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low- income students, children with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.
16. 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 local educational agency, including by—
  - i. 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;
  - ii. implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students;
  - iii. providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and
  - iv. tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education
17. 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.
18. Inspection, testing, maintenance, re-pair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and nonmechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door re-pair and replacement.
19. Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.
20. 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.

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*Frequently Asked Questions, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Programs, U.S. Department of Education, May 2021*

[https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ESSER.GEER\\_FAQs\\_5.26.21\\_745AM\\_FINALb0cd6833f6f46e03ba2d97d30aff953260028045f9ef3b18ea602db4b32b1d99.pdf](https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ESSER.GEER_FAQs_5.26.21_745AM_FINALb0cd6833f6f46e03ba2d97d30aff953260028045f9ef3b18ea602db4b32b1d99.pdf)