



ESSER II Overview Update

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ESSER II Overview Update

Thank you to our hosts!



ESSER II Overview Update

Our Presenters:



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ESSER II Update

- The **Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act** was enacted on December 27, 2020
- The **Education Stabilization Fund (ESF)** received an **additional ~\$82B** across the three main education grant programs:

Education Stabilization Fund (ESF)	
CARES Act (\$30.75 billion)	CRRSA Act (\$82 billion)
ESSER - \$13.5 billion	ESSER II - \$54.3 billion
GEER - \$3 billion	GEER II - \$4.05 billion
HEER - \$14.2 billion	HEER II - \$22.7 billion

- The new recovery bill also extended CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) until December 31, 2021



ESSER II Update

Arizona's ESSER II Award: \$1,149,715,947

- ESSER II Funds remain highly flexible, and are designed to help address **local relief, prevention and preparation, and recovery efforts** relative to responding to **COVID-19**
- Arizona's award is based on Arizona's proportionate share of Title I-A funds received in **FY21 (SY20-21)** - which is why our new award is not exactly 4x ESSER I
- **90%** of Arizona's award (**\$1,034,744,352.30**) must be **sub-granted to LEAs**
 - Funds are allocated based on each LEA's proportionate share of Title I-A funds received in FY20 (SY19-20)* (**awaiting clarification from ED if SEAs will be required to also leverage FY21 data, as the 'most recent fiscal year', to determine ESSER II LEA allocations*)
- **9.5%** of the total award may be reserved for ADE **state-level activities** to support K-12 **relief, prevention and preparation, and recovery efforts**
- No more than **0.5%** of the total award may be reserved by ADE for **administrative costs**



ESSER II Update

Breakdown of Arizona's ESSER II Award:

Total Award	\$1,149,715,947.00
Total SEA Admin (0.5%)	\$ 5,748,579.74
Total SEA Activities (9.5%)	\$109,223,014.97
Total LEA Assistance (90%)	\$1,034,744,352.30

Initial Project Term: March 13, 2020 – September 30, 2022

Funds will remain available for obligation through **September 30, 2023**

NOTE: The Auditor General's Office is establishing **new fund codes** for ESSER II (336) and GEER II (337), as these funds must be tracked separately from original CARES Act funds



ESSER II Update

Key Components of ESSER II: *LEA Use of Funds*

- The allowable use of funds for SEAs and LEAs is the same as under ESSER I
- CRSSA highlights several ‘new’ LEA uses of funds (*however, these ‘new’ activities would have also been allowable under ESSER I*). These include:
 - ✓ **Addressing learning loss** among students, including by:
 - Administering and using high-quality, valid and reliable assessments
 - Implementing evidence-based activities to meet comprehensive needs of students
 - Providing assistance to parents and families on how to effectively support students, including in distance learning environments
 - Tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance learning
 - ✓ **School facilities repair and improvement** to enable safe operation of schools
 - ✓ Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade **projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities**



ESSER II Update

Key Components of ESSER II: *Equitable Services*

- There is not a requirement for LEAs to provide Equitable Services to private schools with ESSER II funds
- Equitable services requirements for ESSER I remain in effect



ESSER II Update

Key Components of ESSER II: *State Maintenance of Effort (MOE)*

- There is a **new state MOE requirement** for receipt of CRSSA Act funds. The prior MOE requirements for CARES Act funds do remain in place:

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) **adapted from ED Fact Sheet; Federal Fiscal Years*

Under the **CARES Act**, a State that receives **ESSER (and GEER)** funds must maintain support for elementary and secondary education and State support for higher education in each of fiscal years (FY) 2020 and 2021 at least at the level of such support that is the average of the support for elementary and secondary education and higher education provided in the three fiscal years preceding the date of enactment of the CARES Act (FYs 2017, 2018, 2019).

Under the **CRRSA Act**, a State that receives **ESSER II (and GEER II)** funds must maintain support for elementary and secondary education and higher education in FY 2022 based on the **proportional share** of the State's support for elementary and secondary education and higher education relative to the State's overall spending averaged over FYs 2017, 2018, and 2019.



ESSER II Update

ESSER I: *State Maintenance of Effort (MOE)*

- The following data were submitted December 2020 by the Governor's Office, per CARES Act Sec. 18008:

“assurances that the State will maintain support for elementary and secondary education, and State support for higher education which shall include State funding to institutions of higher education and state need-based financial aid, and shall not include support for capital projects or for research and development or tuition and fees paid by students”

	K-12	Higher Education
FY 2017	\$ 4,086,457,000	\$ 720,369,600
FY 2018	\$ 4,227,258,400	\$ 723,279,400
FY 2019	\$ 4,687,820,500	\$ 719,083,300
FY17-19 Average	\$ 4,333,845,300	\$ 720,910,800
FY 2020	\$ 5,200,184,900	\$ 729,526,800



GEER II Update

Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS)

- A new program to support private schools, **Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools**, has been included as part of GEER II. ADE will be required to administer this new program on behalf of the Governor's Office. SEAs are awaiting additional guidance from ED regarding the mechanics of this program

Total Arizona GEER II Award	\$85,316,662	
Total GEER II Award (Discretionary - Non EANS)	\$30,903,131	
Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) Award	\$54,413,531	64%
<i>Total Maximum Reservation for EANS Administration</i>	\$272,068	0.5%



ESSER I – Draw Down Activity

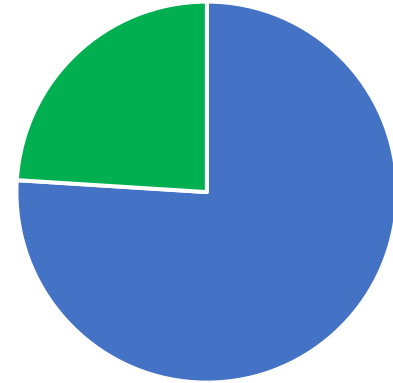
(as of 1/19/2021 @ 10:00AM)

Summary of Draw Down Activity as Compared to Total ESSER Fund Grant

Cohort	Total Award	Total Drawn Down	% of Total Award
Title I	\$252,903,474.20	\$60,348,678.55	24%
Non-Title I	\$10,526,236.90	\$2,873,222.30	27%
	\$263,429,711.10	\$63,221,900.85	24%

\$32,040,333.68 has been
Drawn Down since **November 1st**

Total – ESSER I Fund Grant



- Total Remaining Award (\$200,207,810.25)
- Amount Drawn Down (\$63,221,900.85 - 24%)



Next Steps

Takeaways

- ✓ CRSSA represents the largest K-12 relief program in US history...
- ✓ ...however, CCSSO advocated for \$158 - \$244 billion to support states nationwide. So, while significant, this program may not represent enough funds for a '*full recovery*'. CCSSO has indicated they will continue to advocate for additional funds with the new Congress
- ✓ Also, no additional dedicated funds were provided for education broadband (E-Rate)
- ✓ There will be significant public and political attention on LEA and SEA use of funds, and SEAs must ensure effective controls are in place to prevent waste, fraud and abuse
- ✓ First SEA reports to ED regarding planned use of funds will be due in 6 months



Next Steps

Actions to Consider Now

- ✓ Continue to submit ESSER applications for approval
- ✓ Revise applications, as needed, to help manage local needs
- ✓ Draw down your ESSER Funds as needed on a timely and *ongoing* basis
- ✓ Leverage other Federal funds, such as Title I-A and IV-A, to support local needs (e.g. *PPE, distance learning supports*)

Next Steps

- Begin initial planning for the local usage of ESSER II funds, being mindful that ESSER I funds expire sooner (September 30, 2022)
- The ESSER II application, when released, will be nearly identical to ESSER I, with minor changes to the Program Narrative Questions page to account for 'new' uses of funds and the removal of the Equitable Services section



ESSER II - Timeline Review

Initial Obligation Date for ESSER I and II Funds is **March 13, 2020**

Allowable Pre-Award Costs are Approved to this Date

Grant Application Opens and Final Allocations determined

February 2021

Applications will be Reviewed on an Ongoing Basis

Initial Project / Budget Term Ends on September 30, 2022

Funds Obligated During Initial Project Term Remain Available as **Carryover** until **September 30, 2023**

March 13, 2020

February 2021

September 30, 2022

September 30, 2023

ESSER I:

Application Opened
May 29, 2020

ESSER I:

Initial Project/Budget Term Ends on
September 30, 2021

ESSER I:

Funds Obligated During Initial Project Term Remain Available as Carryover until
September 30, 2022



Next Steps

ADE is committed to working collaboratively to support schools to use these new funds effectively and strategically to meet immediate needs and to make thoughtful, sustainable investments in support of ongoing local recovery efforts



Thank You!



Peter Laing - *Policy Advisor*

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Please visit
www.azed.gov/CARES
for all grant and program resources and
guidance documents

If you have any questions, please contact us at:
ESSER@azed.gov

