



Part I of the ESSER III District Plan

American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER or ESSER III)

Programmatic, Fiscal, and Reporting Assurances

- In accepting ESSER III funds, the local educational agency (LEA) assures it will submit a plan to the Iowa Department of Education (Department) that contains such information as the Department may reasonably require, including all information required by the U.S. Department of Education's (USED) [Interim Final Requirements](#) on ESSER III. The LEA will submit Part II of the ESSER III plan by August 23, 2021.
- The LEA will use ESSER III funds for activities allowable under section 2001(e) of the ARP Act and will reserve at least 20% of its ESSER III funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions.
- The LEA will comply with the maintenance of equity provision in section 2004(c) of the ARP Act.
- The LEA assures either:
 - It will, within 30 days of receiving ESSER III funds, develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a plan for the safe return of in-person instruction and continuity of services as required in section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP and in USED's [Interim Final Requirements](#) or
 - It developed and made publicly available on the LEA's website such a plan that meets statutory requirements before the enactment of the ARP (March 11, 2021) that meets ARP requirements.
- The LEA assures that it will meaningfully engage with the following stakeholders during development of its ESSER III plan and take such input into account in the development of the plan:
 - Students;
 - Families;
 - School and district administrators, including special education administrators;
 - Teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions;
 - Tribes (if applicable);
 - Civil rights and disability rights organizations (if applicable); and
 - Stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students (if applicable).
- The LEA assures that it will seek public comment on its ESSER III plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.
- The LEA assures that it will review its Return-to-Learn plan periodically and at least every six months to ensure it remains relevant and meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The LEA also assures that it will seek public comment on whether the plan requires revisions at least every six months. And if it is so deemed that revisions are necessary, the LEA will provide the public opportunity to provide comments on such revisions.
- The LEA will comply with all reporting requirements at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Department or USED may reasonably require including on matters such as:
 - Overall plans and policies related to State support for return to in-person instruction and maximizing in-person instruction time, including how funds will support a return to and maximize in-person instruction time, and advance equity and inclusivity in participation in in-person instruction;
 - Data on each school's mode of instruction (remote, hybrid, in-person) and conditions;

- How the LEA is developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies and plans in line with the CDC guidance related to addressing COVID-19 in schools;
 - LEA uses of funds to meet students' social, emotional, and academic needs, including through summer enrichment programming and other evidence-based interventions, and how they advance equity for underserved students;
 - LEA uses of funds to sustain and support access to early childhood education programs;
 - Impacts and outcomes (disaggregated by student subgroup) through use of ESSER III funding (e.g., quantitative and qualitative results of ESSER III funding, including on personnel, student learning, and budgeting at the school and district level);
 - Student data (disaggregated by student subgroup) related to how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected instruction and learning;
 - Requirements under the Federal Financial Accountability Transparency Act (FFATA); and
 - Additional reporting requirements as may be necessary to ensure accountability and transparency of ESSER III funds.
- The LEA assures that it will retain records pertaining to the ESSER III award under 2 C.F.R. § 200.334 and 34 C.F.R. § 76.730, including financial records related to use of grant funds, separately from other grant funds, including funds an LEA receives under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA Act). The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such funds by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals available for interview and examination, upon the request of (i) USED and/or its Inspector General; or (ii) any other federal agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority.

Other Assurances and Certifications

- The LEA will comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; merit systems; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; flood hazards; historic preservation; protection of human subjects; animal welfare; lead-based paint; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders and regulations.
- With respect to the certification regarding lobbying in Department Form 80-0013, no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program; the SEA will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," when required (34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix B); and the SEA will require the full certification, as set forth in 34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix A, in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers.
- To the extent applicable, the LEA will include in its local application a description of how the LEA will comply with the requirements of section 427 of GEPA (20 U.S.C. 1228a). The description must include information on the steps the LEA proposes to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede equal access to, or participation in, the program.
- The LEA will comply with all applicable requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (sometimes referred to as the Uniform Guidance, or the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG)).
- The LEA will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.

GEPA ASSURANCES

- The LEA will administer each program covered by the application in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications, including, but not limited to federal education program laws, the General Education Provisions Act, the Education Department General Administrative Regulations, and the Uniform Grant Guidance.
- Control of funds provided to the LEA, and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency and that a public agency will administer those funds and property.
- The local educational agency will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, Federal funds.
- The LEA will make reports to the Department and to USED as may reasonably be necessary to enable the Department and USED to perform their duties and that LEA will maintain such records, including the records required under 20 U.S.C. 1232f, and provide access to those records, as the Department or USED deem necessary to perform their duties.
- The LEA will provide reasonable opportunities for the participation by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals in the planning for and operation of USED programs.
- Any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to a USED program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public.
- In the case of any project involving construction—
 - The project is not inconsistent with overall State plans for the construction of school facilities, and
 - In developing plans for construction, due consideration will be given to excellence of architecture and design and to compliance with standards prescribed by the Secretary of Education under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in order to ensure that facilities constructed with the use of Federal funds are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.
- The LEA has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in a USED program significant information from educational research, demonstrations, and similar projects, and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices developed through such projects.
- None of the funds expended will be used to acquire equipment (including computer software) in any instance in which such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees or any affiliate of such an organization.