

ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act

Introduction

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act statute requires that LEAs develop and make publicly available their plans for the use of funds after having engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders. A summary of Eden CISD's plans for ESSER III funding, aligned to four required components, is below.

Public Comment & Stakeholder Input

This plan was developed in consultation with stakeholders after soliciting public comment via student surveys, community and parent surveys, staff surveys, public meetings, and teacher input meetings.

Effective Date & Publication of Plan

The plan was written in July, 2021, and posted to the LEA website in August, 2020. Should revisions to the plan become necessary, the plan will be updated and a revised version posted on the website.

Required Components of Use of Funds Plan

Statute requires that LEAs describe its use of funds according to four components:

1. Prevention and mitigation strategies consistent to the latest CDC guidance on reopening schools in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning. (LEAs are not required to use ESSER III funds for this activity.)
2. How LEA will use funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year
3. How LEA will spend its remaining funds to meet the intent and purpose of ESSER III
4. How LEA will ensure the interventions address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by COVID19, including

students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

Plan for Funding to Address Impact on Learning

Statute requires a minimum of 20% of ESSER III funding to be directed toward activities that address learning loss. This requirement is separated among two components:

- **Component #2:** Evidence-based interventions; and
- **Component #4:** Interventions that ensure the social, emotional, mental health needs of students are met

Initial 2/3 Entitlement: \$294,991	20% of Entitlement: \$58,998 <i>(minimum allowed)</i>
Total (initial + final amts.) Entitlement: \$442,487	20% of Entitlement: \$88,497 <i>(minimum allowed)</i>
Amount Directed Toward Learning Loss: \$271,141	

Component #2: Evidence-based Interventions

Eden CISD will address learning loss through the following activities:

Eden CISD is funding a reading specialist with ESSER 3 funds. This position is new to the district and is intended to help address the reading difficulties and gaps that students have. The reading specialist is serving students in grades 1 through 8 to help get them reading on grade level. The district is also offering summer learning opportunities for students.

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 3/13/20 preaward - reimburse LEA for activities conducted prior to application submission
- 2020-2021 school year
- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Some allowable uses of funds aligned to this component include –	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities aligned with ESEA • Activities aligned with IDEA • Activities aligned with Adult Education & Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) • Activities aligned with Perkins CTE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase educational technology to aid educational interaction (students/teachers) • Plan/implement summer learning & after-school programs • Address learning loss (assessments; comprehensive needs of students; PFE support; tracking remote attendance/engagement)

Component #4: Interventions Addressing Academic, Social, Emotional Needs of Students

Eden CISD will provide interventions responding academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, in particular underserved groups*, through the following activities:

The district has purchased a SEL program to address the needs of students. Character Strong is being used at the secondary level. Teachers use the program each week with small groups of students to address their social-emotional health. Purpose Full People is the program being used at the elementary level. Each week has a theme with activities for students to complete under the direction of their teacher. The class discussions and related activities help teach the skills.

**Underserved groups: low-income students; students of color; English learners; students with disabilities; students experiencing homelessness; children in foster care; migratory students*

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Some allowable uses of funds aligned to this component include –	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Address student needs: low-income, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth• Purchase educational technology to aid educational interaction (students/teachers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide mental health services and supports (incl. implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools & hiring counselors)• Address learning loss (assessments; comprehensive needs of students; PFE support; tracking remote attendance/engagement)

Plan for Other Needs

Statute requires that the remaining funds ($\leq 80\%$ of ESSER III entitlement) be spent on other needs aligned with the intent and purpose of ESSER III. This requirement is separated among two components:

- **Component #1**: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies (optional use of ESSER III); and
- **Component #3**: Remaining use of ESSER funds aligned to safely reopening and sustaining the safe operation of schools and addressing the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students

Initial 2/3 Entitlement: \$294,991	80% of Entitlement: \$58,998 <i>(maximum allowed)</i>
Total (initial + final amts.) Entitlement: \$442,487	80% of Entitlement: \$_88,497 <i>(maximum allowed)</i>
Amount Directed Toward Other Needs: \$23,850	

Component #1: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

Eden CISD is supporting these strategies through ESSER III funding and will include the following:

With the short supply and high cost of sanitation materials, the district will use ESSER 3 funding to help offset some of the increased costs and other related expenses incurred. For example, portable backpack sprayers can be used in larger areas like gyms, locker rooms, and science labs to sanitize between groups of students.

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Some allowable uses of funds aligned to this component include –	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies/Protocols aligned to CDC guidance (reopening/operating) • Coordinating to prevent, prepare for, respond to COVID19 • PD: sanitizing and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean • Develop & implement procedures and systems to improve preparedness & response efforts of LEAs

Component #3: Remaining Use of Funds

Eden CISD will use the remaining funds to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. The following activities are planned:

As the pandemic continues to progress and our students and teachers continue to miss school, we will plan, act, and evaluate as situations arise that will need our attention.

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Some allowable uses of funds aligned to this component include –	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repairing & improving school facilities to reduce risk of virus/exposure to health hazards• Improving indoor air quality• Develop & implement procedures and systems to improve preparedness & response efforts of LEAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan/implement activities during long-term closures, (meals to eligible students; provide technology for online learning; guidance for IDEA requirements; ensure other ed. services continue per federal, state, local requirements)• Other activities that are necessary to maintain operation of and continuity of services, including continuing to employ existing or hiring new LEA and school staff