



DECATUR
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT

2020-2023 ARP ESSER III

Use of Funds Plan

July 2021

Updated September 2022

ESSER III Overview

Data show that the COVID pandemic has had a significant impact on student learning, both across the country and in Decatur ISD. The American Rescue Plan was signed into law in March and included \$122 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds for school districts across the country, which is the single largest investment in federal elementary and secondary education in the nation's history. Decatur ISD is applying to receive some of that additional funding. As a part of ESSER III, Decatur ISD is allocated \$2,545,270 in funding to use through September 2024. At least 20% of those funds must be used to address learning loss. ESSER III can fund academic supports, social-emotional supports, health/safety, and continuity of services. DISD will also review and adapt our plan as we learn what is most impactful.

General grant specifics are as follows:

Grant Timeframe: Grant expires September 30, 2023. If needed, districts can carry over unused funds and be allowed to continue spending until September 30, 2024.

Districts will be required to follow all federal, state, and local regulations and requirements for federal grant administration and fiscal spending of funds.

ARP ESSER III Purpose: Grant funds should be used to respond to the pandemic and to address student learning loss as a result of COVID 19. Decatur ISD submitted a survey and met with stakeholders to provide feedback to create our ESSER III Plan.

Decatur ISD Plan for ARP ESSER III Funding

Program Narrative

In an effort to optimize the facilitation of the ESSER III Grant Program and use of funds, Decatur ISD is planning ESSER funds to be used for the following uses:

a. Payroll - Allowable Costs in the amount of \$1,241,910 will be used for the creation of instructional support positions and tutorial stipends for personnel- instructional/ support staff at the campuses for intervention during the day, after and/or before school tutorial stipends for secondary teachers, an Instructional Coach, and a Coordinator of Instructional Resources at the district level. The district will also provide stipends for those teachers completing professional development in the Reading Academy. Also, the district will use grant funds to pay for Summer School salaries to enhance summer enrichment learning opportunities for our students. *To date (September 2022) the district has spent \$447,172 in payroll costs. This includes Summer School pay, Reading Academy stipends, an Instructional Technologist, an Instructional Coach, and campus instructional staff. For the 2022-23 school year, additional staff was added. A Testing Coordinator at Decatur High School and a MTSS Coordinator at McCarroll Middle School were added, as well as additional instructional staff. The remaining balance in payroll costs is \$794,730 to be used for the 23-24 school year.*

b. Supplies and Materials - Allowable costs in the amount of \$1,303,360 will be used to provide allowable supplies and researched based instructional materials, including technology, by applying funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions. The technology purchased will aid in regular and substantive educational interaction between instructors and students. *To date (September 2022) the district has spent \$1,303,359.34 in supplies and materials costs. This includes technology costs for chromebooks and laptops, calculators, and instructional materials. The remaining balance in supplies costs is \$0.*

c. Other Operating Costs/ Professional and Contracted Services - Allowable costs in the amount of \$2000 over the next 3 academic school years will be used to cover the cost of other learning loss mitigation strategies that do not fit into the above two categories. *To date (September 2022) the district has spent \$0 in Other Operating Costs/ Professional and Contracted Services.*

Included in the required 20% set-aside funds for learning loss mitigation= \$525,000
Total ESSER III Funds Allocated to Decatur ISD = \$2,545,270.

Pre-Award

The total dollar amount of ESSER III funds to be charged as pre-award costs for activities (March 13, 2020, through the application submission date)- \$462,500.

Minimum Required Set-Aside

The total dollar amount of ESSER III funds to be expended to meet the 20% minimum required set-aside for learning loss mitigation, including through afterschool, summer school, extended day/year programs, targeted to students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students- \$525,000.

Brief description of the activities selected in Program Plan for required set-aside

- Summer programs including traditional summer school k-12
- Targeted academic interventions for struggling students including tutorials
- Content specific curricula and materials for targeted learning loss and social and emotional support
- Teacher stipends for Reading Academy Training
- Instructional support positions

To date (September 2022) the district has spent \$1,750,531.56 towards the minimum required set aside costs.

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Below is the direct web link to the Decatur ISD web page where the district's required "Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan" and the district's plan for the uses of ARP ESSER III funds is located within 30 days of receiving the ESSER III Grant NOGA. These plans must be reviewed at

least every 6 months and updated as appropriate. *The Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan was updated on August 11, 2022.*

<https://www.decalurisd.us/ESSER>