

# Using federal funds to support digital learning efforts.

Districts have an unprecedented opportunity to leverage funding from multiple federal sources to support digital learning. Combining federal funds is a strategy that ensures consistency, eliminates duplication of services and allows districts to strategically direct federal grants that may not have been expended during the school year because of impacts due to COVID-19. Commonly referenced as the “braiding of federal funds”, this approach helps to ensure maximum benefit to students and flexibility to districts. A full description of each ESSA federal program and the allowable uses of funds can be found in the [Oregon Federal Funds Guide](#).

| Activities  | <b>Access and Connectivity Funding</b><br>People need adequate infrastructure and/or services for internet access and connectivity at school and at home. | <b>Student and Teacher Device Funding</b><br>People need appropriate and user-friendly devices. | <b>Content and Instructional Materials</b><br>Students learn best with high quality, adaptable, culturally responsive, and effective instructional materials. | <b>Learning Management Systems (LMS)</b><br>An LMS can help with organization and communication. | <b>Professional Learning for Educators</b><br>Training and support are necessary for the effective use of digital learning tools. |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Title I-A <sup>2</sup>  | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |
| Title II-A <sup>3</sup>   | ✗   | Teacher Devices <sup>3</sup>  | ✗   | ✗  | ✓   |
| Title IV-A <sup>4</sup>   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |
| Title IV-B <sup>5</sup>   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |
| ESSER I   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |
| ESSER II  | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |
| ESSER III   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |
| <b>Affordable Connectivity Program</b> (formerly Emergency Broadband Benefit) | ✓   | ✗   | ✗   | ✗  | ✗   |
| <b>Emergency Connectivity Fund Program<sup>6</sup></b>                        | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |

2 Title IA-funds may be used for the areas indicated above as long as they are supported in the Title I-A funded school’s needs assessment, and in the district’s methodology for distributing State and local funds to all schools before Title I-A funds are considered.

3 Title II-A funds may be used to purchase devices for educators only if they are used to support educator participation in professional learning.

4 Title IV-A funds may be used for the areas indicated above as long as they are supported in the district’s needs assessment for Title IV-A, and are supplemental to any State and local funds being used for the same areas.

5 Title IV-B funds must be used to support before school, after school and summer programming during the times when school is not in session and according to grantees approved grant application.

6 ECF Application window for the third and likely final round of funding is open April 28 – May 13, 2022 to eligible schools for goods & services delivered between July 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023.