**District Template: ARP ESSER (ESSER III) Community Letter**

##

Subject: Oregon’s application for ARP ESSER (ESSER III) funds has been submitted

Dear [District Name School Community / School Board],

An opportunity is ahead of us to make use of federal funds to benefit our students and school community. The funds will allow us to expand efforts already underway in our state and district, such as:

1. Addressing unfinished learning through asset-based acceleration strategies
2. Prioritizing health, safety, wellness, and connections for all communities
3. Strengthening high-quality, culturally-sustaining and revitalizing instruction, leadership, and pathways to graduation and post-secondary transitions.

**About the funding:** On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. The ARP Act includes nearly $122 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Fund. The Oregon Department of Education was allocated $1.121 billion. 90% of this amount ($1,008,925,861) will go to districts using the Title I formula. Our state’s application for this funding was submitted on June 7, 2021, but is not yet approved. ODE will inform us if and when it is approved.

**What this means for our district:** The Title I formula for our district will result in [$amount] of funding. Here’s what you need to know about how that funding will be used:

* [FILL IN: Approach/Priorities]
* [FILL IN: Any existing information or plans for decision making]
* [FILL IN: Describe Community Engagement Process or Summarize existing feedback]

**Provide your input:** In order to ensure that funding coming to our district meets our current needs, we are planning to [list any engagement opportunities such as a presentation of the template slide deck]. In our presentation on [date and time], you can hear more about the timeline ahead, equity investment framework, resources available, funding breakdown, and application highlights. You are also welcome to reach out anytime with questions and comments by [contact method and information].

[If applicable: Register to hear more about ARP ESSER III funding on date/time.]

The application is just the starting point, so expect changes and evolution as this process extends through 2024.

We look forward to seizing this opportunity for [district name].

[Signoff]