



CCSSO Fact Sheet: COVID-19 Relief Funding for K-12 Education (Updated with ARP)

State educational agencies are currently engaged in unprecedented activity to support students and communities as they mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects upon student learning and wellbeing. In 2020, Congress approved two major COVID-19 relief packages, the CARES Act and the CRRSA Act, which contain programs that support states and school districts in responding to the national pandemic. In March of 2021, Congress approved additional funding under the American Rescue Plan Act. Below is a summary of the primary K-12 funding streams and implementing provisions of these three major relief packages.

CARES ACT, Education Stabilization Fund – March 2020

	ESSER I	GEER I
Amount appropriated	\$13.23 billion by formula to State Educational Agencies (SEAs), in proportion to relative share of FY 2019 ESEA Title I, Part A awards (based primarily on census poverty data and cost of education in each state). State allocations here .	\$3 billion by formula to Governors, 60% on basis of population and 40% on basis of poverty. State allocations here .
Structure	SEAs may reserve up to 10% for emergency needs, including up to .5% of total state allocation for administration, then must allocate remaining 90% to school districts (LEAs) on the basis of relative share of FY 2019 Title I, Part A awards.	Subgrants to local educational agencies (LEAs) significantly impacted by COVID, institutions of higher education (IHEs) significantly impacted by COVID, and/or other essential “education related entities.” Many governors have designated SEAs to administer.
Local Uses of Funds	Very broad, including any activity authorized by major K-12 education authorizations (ESEA, IDEA, AEFLA, Perkins, McKinney-Vento) and other enumerated uses of funds.	Very broad, to support LEAs and IHEs “on-going functionality” as well as LEAs, IHEs, and education-related entities deemed essential to carry out emergency educational services and other activities.
Period of Availability	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020. Available for obligation through September 30, 2022. <i>(Please note the law itself says funds are available through September 30, 2021, but education programs, including ESSER and GEER, are subject to another law called the Tydings Amendment, which extends the period of availability by one additional year.)</i>	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020. Available for obligation through September 30, 2022.

Status	Most ESSER I funds have been obligated by SEAs and LEAs and are in the process of being liquidated through grants management processes.	Most GEER I funds have been obligated and are in the process of being liquidated through grants management processes.
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CRRSA, Education Stabilization Fund II – December 2020

	ESSER II	GEER II
Amount appropriated	\$54.3 billion by formula to State Educational Agencies (SEAs), in proportion to relative share of FY 2020 ESEA Title I, Part A awards (based primarily on census poverty data and cost of education in each state). State allocations here .	\$4 billion to Governors: \$1.3 billion by GEER I formula (60% population and 40% poverty); \$2.75 billion for EANS (see below) on the basis of relative number of children in the state aged 5 through 17 at or below 185% of poverty. State allocations here .
Structure	Same as ESSER I: SEAs reserve up to 10% for emergency needs, including .5% of total state allocation for administration, then must allocate remaining 90% to school districts (LEAs) on the basis of relative share of FY 2020 Title I, Part A awards.	\$1.3 billion consistent with GEER I: Subgrants to institutions of higher education, school districts, and/or “education related entities.” \$2.75 billion reserved for new “Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools Program” (EANS). Governors submit applications to USED to receive funds, must designate SEA to administer program. Nonpublic schools apply directly to SEAs to receive services.
Local Uses of Funds	Very broad, consistent with ESSER I, , including any activity authorized by major K-12 education authorizations (ESEA, IDEA, AEFLA, Perkins, McKinney-Vento) and other enumerated uses of funds. Express authority for use of funds for digital learning and connectivity. New express authority to address learning loss, school facility repairs and improvements, and improving indoor air quality in school facilities , but ED clarified that these are also allowable uses under ESSER I.	GEER II, general: Very broad, consistent with GEER I. EANS reservation: Also very broad, to address diverse conditions affecting students in nonpublic schools. SEAs must prioritize services or assistance to non-public schools that enroll low-income students and are most impacted by COVID. Public agencies required to maintain control of funds and title to equipment.
Period of Availability	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020. Available for obligation through September 30, 2023. <i>(Please note the law itself says funds are available through September 30, 2022, but education programs, including ESSER and GEER, are subject to another law called the Tydings Amendment, which extends the period of availability by one additional year.)</i>	GEER II: May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020. Available for obligation through September 30, 2023. EANS: SEAs must obligate all funds for benefit of nonpublic schools within 6 months of receipt; any funds that remain unobligated after 6 months revert to GEER II.
Status	Nearly all SEAs have received their allocations and are in the process of allocating funds to LEAs.	All governors have received regular GEER II allocations. All states have received EANS

		allocations, which are listed here . to state here .
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American Rescue Plan, Education Stabilization Fund III—March 2021

	ARP - ESSER III	ARP - EANS II
Amount appropriated	\$122.775 billion. State allocations here .	\$2.75 billion for EANS. (GEER not funded under ARP.)
Structure	<p>\$800 million reserved by USED to identify and assist children and youth experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>\$121.975 billion for ESSER distributed to states using same general method as ESSER I and II: by formula to State Educational Agencies (SEAs), in proportion to relative share of FY 2020 ESEA Title I, Part A awards. SEAs must reserve at least the following amounts from the total state allocation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% for interventions to address learning loss • 1% for summer enrichment programs • 1% for comprehensive afterschool programs <p>SEAs may reserve up to 2.5% for emergency needs as determined by the SEA, and .5% for SEA administration.</p> <p>SEAs must allocate at least 90% to school districts (LEAs) on the basis of relative share of FY 2020 Title awards.</p>	<p>\$2.75 billion in additional funding for EANS with modifications. Governors apply to USED to receive funds.</p> <p>USED will provide additional information about the mechanisms under which states will administer EANS II and its relationship to EANS I.</p>
Local Uses of Funds	<p>Very broad, consistent with ESSERs I and II, including any activity authorized by major K-12 education authorizations (ESEA, IDEA, AEFLA, Perkins) and other enumerated uses of funds. New express authority to use ESSER funds to develop strategies and implement public health protocols consistent with CDC guidance to extent practicable, for the reopening and operation of school facilities. ED clarified that this is also allowable under ESSER I and II.</p>	<p>Very broad, consistent with EANS I, to address diverse conditions affecting students in nonpublic schools.</p> <p>Participating non-public schools must enroll a “significant percentage of low-income students” and be “most impacted” by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>SEAs cannot reimburse nonpublic schools for expenses (as they can under EANS I).</p>

	LEAs must reserve not less than 20% of their allocation to address learning loss.	Public agencies required to maintain control of funds and title to equipment.
Period of Availability	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020. Available for obligation through September 30, 2024. <i>(Please note the law itself says funds are available through September 30, 2023, but education programs, including ESSER and GEER, are subject to another law called the Tydings Amendment, which extends the period of availability by one additional year.)</i>	EANS: USED will provide additional information about the mechanisms under which states will administer EANS II and its relationship to EANS I.
Status	On March 17, 2021, USED sent a letter to state chiefs announcing state ARP ESSER allocations and stating that it will begin to make funds available later in the month.	As of March 17, 2021, USED is working to finalize plans to make allocations to states.



Total ESSER and GEER funds, March 2020 – March 2021

ESSER I, ESSER II, and ARP-ESSER formula grants to states and school districts: \$189.5 billion

ESSER SEA reservations: \$18.9 billion

GEER I, GEER II, and GEER III: \$9.75 billion, including \$4.5 billion under EANS

Additional K-12 Education and Related Funding under the American Rescue Plan

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): \$3.03 billion (of which \$2.58b is for Part B Grants to States).

Emergency Connectivity Fund: \$7.2 billion to support schools and libraries in providing connectivity outside of school or library settings. The federal government would pay 100% of the costs of eligible equipment and services, subject to FCC-established caps. Funding available from January 27, 2020 through June 20 one year after the federal government determines that the emergency no longer exists.

Recovery Rebates to Individuals: ARP provides payments of up to \$1400 for individuals, including eligible taxpayers' dependents.

Expansion of Child Tax Credit: For 2021, increases size of child tax credit to up to \$3,600 for each child up to age 6 and up to \$3,000 for each child aged 6-17. Makes the credit advanceable in the form of periodic installment payments over the course of the year.

Institution of Education Sciences: \$100 million to carry out research related to learning loss and disseminate findings of such research.

Please contact Peter.Zamora@ccsso.org if you have questions or require support. CCSSO will update this summary as additional information becomes available.