

ARP ESSER State Plan Amendment Update

Greetings, grantees –

In September 2022, the U. S. Department of Education (Department) provided States with information regarding the process for submitting an amendment to section D, Maximizing State-Level Funds to Support Students, of their approved American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER) State plan. A State planning to implement different or additional evidence-based interventions to better address the evolving educational needs of children was required to submit proposed amendments to the Department for review and approval consistent with the requirements in section 2001(f) of the ARP Act. However, because the period of availability of ARP ESSER funds ended on September 30, 2024, States are no longer required to submit amendments to section D of their ARP ESSER State plans.

The Department will use Annual Performance Report ARP ESSER expenditure data and other qualitative data to monitor States' spending (i.e., liquidation) of their reserved funds to ensure that the statutorily required reservations (ARP Act section 2001(f)(1) (totaling no less than 5% of the total allocation for evidence-based interventions to address learning loss), 2001(f)(2) (totaling no less than 1% of the total allocation for evidence-based interventions for summer enrichment), or section 2001(f)(3) (totaling no less than 1% of the total allocation for evidence-based interventions for before and after-school enrichment)) are met. We will then follow up with States as needed to determine if they anticipate having remaining unobligated funds under each required reservation that the State may want to use for obligations it incurred prior to September 30, 2024, that are: (1) different than the activities that are described in the State's ARP ESSER State plan and (2) allowable under the statute and are being used for the purpose for which the funds were reserved (e.g., funds that were reserved under ARP Act 2001(f)(2) for summer enrichment must still be used for summer enrichment, but may be used for different summer enrichment activities than those described in the State plan). We want to support States in maximizing every dollar to provide students with a high-quality education.

Thank you for your continued work to implement your ARP ESSER State plan. If you have any questions, please reach out to your SGR program officer through your State mailbox ([*Statename*].OESE@ed.gov).

In partnership,

Office of State and Grantee Relations