

Nebraska ARP ESSER State Plan Highlights

Total ARP ESSER allocation for Nebraska: \$546,290,147

ARP ESSER funding released to Nebraska on March 24, 2021: \$363,939,079

ARP ESSER funding released to Nebraska on October 14, 2021: \$182,351,068

2020-2021 Preliminary Statewide Enrollment: 324,697

Top Priorities within Nebraska's Plan:

- Improve access to comprehensive mental health services for students, staff, and communities
- Expand authentic family and community engagement
- Equip teachers and leaders with high-quality professional learning and resources and bolster the teacher pipeline
- Ensure students have equitable access to grade-level instruction to address unfinished learning and support learning acceleration

Highlights of Nebraska's Plan:

- **Returning to In-Person Learning in 2021:** All districts in Nebraska have return to in-person learning.
- **Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations:** The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) will continue to implement its *Do Right, Right Now* campaign, a statewide effort to promote the continued need for safety, masking, vaccinations, and mental health. NDE is also working on a project with a local medical group to promote the safety of vaccines in children.
- **Addressing the Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time:** NDE will pursue evidence-based interventions that support the state plan priorities described above: supporting student and staff social emotional wellbeing and mental health; reimagining family and community engagement; investing in teacher professional development, upskilling, and the teacher and leader pipeline; and ensuring students have equitable access to grade-level instruction to address unfinished learning and support learning acceleration.
- **Investing in Expanded Afterschool Programs:** NDE is partnering with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to implement evidence-based enrichment activities. NDE will select sites for funding that have been impacted the most by the COVID-19 pandemic and are most in need. Identified schools include sites with current 21st Century Community Learning Center grants or other expanded learning programs. The identification process also prioritizes middle and high school settings.
- **When Nebraska's LEA Use of Funds Plans were due:** September 15, 2021