

Wyoming ARP ESSER State Plan Highlights

Total ARP ESSER allocation for Wyoming: \$303,779,377

ARP ESSER funding released to Wyoming on March 24, 2021: \$202,472,927

ARP ESSER funding released to Wyoming on October 7, 2021: \$101,306,450

2020-2021 Preliminary Statewide Enrollment: 93,037

Top Priorities within Wyoming's plan:

- Addressing academic gaps due to interrupted learning opportunities
- Addressing the social, emotional, and mental health needs of all individuals in the education system

Highlights of Wyoming's Plan:

- **Sustaining In-Person Learning in 2021:** Wyoming schools began the 2021-22 school year with in-person instruction available to all students.
- **Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations:** The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) developed a Smart Start Guidance document for the reopening of schools. The Smart Start Taskforce facilitated a series of meetings during May and June 2020 to consider research and utilize CDC Guidance and state and local health requirements to develop a practical guidance tool to assist school districts in reopening in the fall of 2020 and 2021. Schools are continuing to operate using the structures developed in the Smart Start Guidance, including CDC guidance, and state and local health requirements.
- **Addressing the Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time:** The WDE will award some ARP ESSER funds through competitive district grants titled "Addressing Gaps and Accelerated Learning." Districts will select evidence-based interventions consistent with student needs and specific focus areas including kindergarten readiness, computer science, postsecondary partnerships, postsecondary transition programming, and content specific professional development. Additionally, interventions will include Tribal or Wind River Reservation district partnerships. Grant applications will open immediately with anticipated award notification no later than December 15, 2021.
- **Investing in Summer Learning and Expanded After School Programs:** The WDE will continue to use ARP ESSER funding in summer 2022 to provide districts and community-based organizations with grants to implement or expand evidence-based summer learning enrichment and afterschool programs during the school year.
- **Staffing to Support Students' Needs:** With ARP ESSER funds, the WDE has funded a State School Nurse position to provide assistance to districts on implementation of state and local health orders. Additionally, the WDE will use ARP ESSER funds to add necessary staff in districts including highly-qualified interventionists and tutors, counselors, school psychologists, and paraprofessionals. Funds will be made available immediately to support LEAs and activities identified in the ARP state plan.
- **When Wyoming LEA Use of Funds Plans were Due:** Within 90 days of district's receipt of ARP ESSER funds.