

Tegan: Welcome, and thank you for joining today's ARP ESSER monitoring update and quarterly reviews. Before we begin, please ensure you've opened the WebEx chat panel by using the associated icon on the bottom right corner of your screen. Please note that all audio connections are muted until the Q&A portion of the call. You are welcome to submit written questions throughout the presentation and these will be addressed during Q&A. To submit a written question, select all panelists from the drop down menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box provided, and send. As a reminder, this conference is being recorded. If you require technical assistance, please send a chat to the event producer.

With that, I'll turn the conference over to location Lakesha McKenzie, team lead over technical assistance and communication. Please go ahead.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Welcome to SGR's Office Hour. Can you all hear me? I just got a notification that I was muted. Okay, great. So I'm glad you can hear me. I want to say welcome to SGR's Office Hour session for fiscal year 2022 monitoring for the ARP ESSER grantees. We thank you for joining us today. I want to take the time to introduce a few key persons before we get started, before we dive deep into the content. We have Christopher Fenton, who is our team leader over monitoring, and our director, Laura Jimenez, whom you will hear from shortly.

I also want you to know that we do appreciate your patience as we all work through these challenging times. We are committed to helping you all by hosting these Office Hours. We really want to make sure that we help you navigate program requirements as best as we can. So these Office Hours are for you. Please continue to let us know if there are topics that you want to recommend for future Office Hours. During today's Office Hours, we are covering fiscal year '22 monitoring at the state level.

Please feel free to ask questions throughout our presentation, but we will also open the call up questions after we go through the topics as well. So there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions throughout, as well as at the end of the presentation. We encourage you to submit your questions in the chat box as we are going over the content of the presentation. We will also pause, as I mentioned earlier, for you to ask questions over audio, and that is really for those of you who are participating by phone. So with that being said, I'm going to turn it over to our director, Laura, who will greet you at this time.

Laura Jimenez: Hello all, and thank you so much for taking time out of your very busy schedules to join us. And we are very much looking forward to providing you this information and answering any and all questions that you have in a timely manner. And I'm going to kick it over to Chris because he is the main star of the show. And once again, thank you so much.

Chris Fenton: Thanks so much, Laura and Lakesha. Again, I'm Chris Fenton. Some of you may have communicated with me on various issues. We've done some other webinars and whatnot. And definitely again, thank you so much for being here.

We hope that this will be a good of time for you to learn a few things about some things that are coming up and just about how we do monitoring in general with these pandemic grants. As you may know, oversight and monitoring has consistently been highlighted as an important area of focus for the department, and especially subrecipient monitoring. And especially during these unprecedented times with unprecedented amounts of funding. So our goal with monitoring is more than just compliance. We hope that through monitoring, we can work with grantees on improvements to programs and processes, so that grant activities may better meet the purpose of grant, which for these grants and our ARP ESSER specifically is to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus. Can we get to the next slide please?

And so today we're going to provide a general overview of monitoring and highlight the new quarterly review protocol and process. First of all, there are four types of formal monitoring for these pandemic grants. We have the focused or targeted monitoring, which is an abbreviated protocol generally based on financial data and information. There's the comprehensive monitoring, which is led by the program office, which in this case is State and Grantee Relations, SGR, and that covers program requirements as well as the fiscal requirements for the grants. And then in addition to those two types of monitoring, we have the consolidated monitoring, which is cross OESE program and fiscal reviews. And that's led by the Management Support Office within OESE. And some of the other programs that may be involved in those types of reviews would be like Title I, Title II, some of the McKinney-Vento sometimes depending on what programs are up for review.

So in addition to those three types of reviews that we have been using for these pandemic grants, we're going to also introduce today the quarterly reviews, which are brief quarterly remote engagements around a set topic for each quarter across all states. And so with the first three, the focus, the comprehensive and the consolidated monitoring, it is only able to reach a handful of states for that deep level of monitoring. With the quarterly reviews, we're going to expand that, shrink the process a little bit to make it a little bit more manageable for the states and grantees and for us as well. And we're going to be able to do a good cross section of all states with these quarterly reviews. Next slide please.

And so for all of the monitoring activities and upcoming activities, there are several things that are in common. Again, with the exception of quarterly reviews, which are for all grantees, selection for monitoring is generally based on risk assessment. And SGR and the department, we use financial data, drawdowns from G5 other information, grant amounts, et cetera, program information, other information to make determinations of risk. And other information could be financial controls, information that we get in reporting and things like that. Expectations of all the different types of monitoring are similar. There will be some documentation submissions, there will be an interview with some questions, and there'll be follow up if there are any identified areas for

corrective action or findings. Next. And this slide you'll have available later, and it has links to some other resources as well.

Currently the protocols that are online are just for the CARES Act version. And we are in the process of updating those protocols to include the CRRSAA and our programs as well. Fundamentally, the fundamentals are still very, very similar and all the fiscal stuff is based on program requirements out of uniform guidance. So most of that won't change. It'll just be some of the particulars. Next slide please.

And so the current ongoing CARES Act monitoring, like I said, it involves some was the focused monitoring and the comprehensive monitoring, and also the consolidated monitoring. And for the focused monitoring, we had seven engagements so far, Iowa, Texas Montana, North Carolina, Nevada, Oklahoma, and West Virginia. There are two consolidated monitoring activities that were done with Nevada and Tennessee. And we have wrapped up fairly recently the comprehensive monitoring engagements with Indiana and Maine. And we're working on getting the reports out for those two. And again, once these types of monitoring activities are completed, we post the results or the reports online and work closely with states on resolving any issues. Next slide please.

So beginning in FY22, we are doing a new process for monitoring, and that's the quarterly review. Quarterly reviews will include all states. We do understand that some states may be involved in other types of monitoring, and we'll work with those states to schedule a time that's not conflicting or overlapping. Topics again will be consistent from state to state for each quarter. And each quarterly review is based on the same structure. So each review will have a few set question stems, and those question stems will be tied into the topics which will change from quarter to quarter. And the goal is to provide timely oversight and technical assistance, as well as to reach all states in a timely manner, rather than having to wait for the bigger, more involved monitoring activities. And if we can go to the next slide please.

So this lays out the topic for this quarter of quarterly reviews. And again, it's essentially three subtopics that are all around the LEA set-asides, and addressing students most impacted by COVID-19 pandemic and also lost instructional time. So if you go to the next slide, we'll look through the questions here. I'm just going to give you a few seconds to take a look at the question stem. And again, these are going to be related to the topic of set-asides for learning loss and addressing the most impacted there. So the first question revolves around successes, which there's a chance for the new conversations to be had around activities that are having the impact that the state's looking for, a chance to share tools or resources as well. Next slide please.

And so we move from successes into challenges on the next slide. This next question is basically the flip side of that first question. We want to talk about the requirements and challenges in meeting those requirements. And this can

also be a time to engage in conversations about supports that a state or grantee may need from the department so that we can help you improve your processes and better meet the needs of the students in your states. Next question, please. Next slide. And so the third question is basically a measurement type question. How do you know that what you're doing is having the impact that you want it to, that you're actually meeting the goals that you set? And give examples. Next slide please.

And then the last question is kind of related to that measurement question from before. It's milestones, and basically, how are you looking forward? How are you anticipating the different major parts of your projects? And as well, again, it all relates to these subtopics around the LEA set-asides and the learning loss and impact. And again, it provides, as part of this question, a chance for grantees to ask us at the department for help and give more specificity on things that you might need to support some of these shorter term goals for these projects. Next slide please.

And so like I say, each of these quarterly reviews will be standardized. The timeline right now, we're trying to provide training and front-end support through there's webinar and through some emails. We're going to be sending out emails from the program officers to grantees, and that'll spell out more about how the submission of documentation might work and work on scheduling and things like that as well for the actual review calls. And then of course after the call, there'll be a follow up email, either outlining next steps, if there are any corrective action type things or closing out the session.

And again, these will be fairly short. We're aiming for about an hour. It'll be a conversation structured around these questions and topics. And the goal is to be able to end these types of engagements and have a really great snapshot across all states and be able to use that more timely information to improve our own internal processes and improve the communications and information we get out to you all in the field.

That's all I have for the nuts and bolts. We do have some time for questions and answers. I know Lakesha has been monitoring some of those, and I will turn off my camera to let Lakesha take a look.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Yes. So I was looking for the link to put the link for the ARP ESSER resources page. I'm going to drop that in the chat in just a second. So yes, to just answer your question-

Lakesha McKenzi...: I'm going to drop that in a chat in just a second. Yes, to just answer your questions verbally while I prepare to type your answers. Yes, this session is being recorded. The slide deck will be available after the presentation. It will take us about a week to get it back from our event services department and prepare it for the website. So it would be available in about a week on the [inaudible 00:14:25] resources page in a few minutes.

I'm going to drop that link in the chat, but it was also sent to you in the invitation that I sent to you all through G-5. So you do have the link to the [inaudible 00:14:38] resources page, where the presentation will be available. I just see a lot of questions asking, will you receive a copy of the presentation? Yes, you will. All right, here's a question about the content of the webinar. Is evidence required to support state responses? Chris, is evidence required to support state responses?

Chris Fenton: Yes, and that'll be the purpose of the documentation. And again, these are meant to be very narrowly focused types of engagements. Every state's a little bit different, so the documentation will be possibly different from state to state, but it'll be along the lines of the type of documentation you would expect to see on a bigger monitoring type activity. It'll just be a small chunk of that, basically.

For the set aside, if it asks for how did you support an LEA, you could share examples of communications, you could share emails that you've sent out to the districts to provide information. You can share handbooks, things like that as well, things like that. Yeah, there will be evidence required and that's the documentation, and of course the interview itself, and it'll just be a snapshot type monitoring, if that makes sense.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. Thank you, Chris. Another question was asking if you could elaborate on the documentation, but I think you just did that on what type of documentation we will be asking states to provide. If there's something more you wanted to add to that, Chris, now is the opportunity to do so.

Chris Fenton: I think some of it, like I said, is going to be so state specific, that it's probably best just to work with your program officers when the time comes. We're more than happy to give thoughts and work together on those types of questions.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you, Chris. I did notice that I just dropped the link to the [inaudible 00:16:46] resources page and I need to spell the link out because it's a hyperlink and it's not making the actual link to the page available to you. So I'll address that in a second, but I want to get back to the content questions because we do have more here. How will the evidence be submitted to the department? Do you want us to submit the evidence through email, SharePoint?

Chris Fenton: It'll likely be email to get us started. Like I said, again, these are designed to be smaller chunks of monitoring. Hopefully, the documentation that you would submit wouldn't be too extensive. There are attachment limits on email and whatnot, but that shouldn't be a big deal for these types of monitoring activities.

Lakesha McKenzi...: All right, we have another question. Who all on the state side do you want at the quarterly meetings?

Chris Fenton: And again, that might vary from state to state. Certainly, the program director, some of the fiscal side. Some states have a more of an integrated approach with the fiscal and program requirements and offices, and some states don't. So again, you'll probably need to work with your program officer to make sure you're getting the right folks. But again, these are primarily programmatic questions for this quarter. So the topic will drive participants a lot of time.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay, "Thank you very much for this overview," a grantee has said. And the question is, "The four questions for the first quarter that you shared seemed to me to be aligned more towards the support and sharing best practices, goal of monitoring, rather than the evaluating compliance side of monitoring. Is that accurate, or will those questions inform the department's determinations of compliance? "

Laura Jimenez: Hey, Chris, I'd like [crosstalk 00:18:47]-

Chris Fenton: ... part of the package. Definitely compliant. Oh, Laura, sure.

Laura Jimenez: Oh, sorry about that. Yeah, as Chris was saying, it's both. For example, some of the questions that we have are going to be related to the LEA plans and their consistency with the interim final rule that was published last year. That's one example full of a question that will be coming from a compliance perspective, but then we're also going to be asking, how it is that you are supporting LEAs in identifying those students that are most impacted by COVID 19? And that's more of a best practices or effective practices type of question. So it is a blend, and Chris, please continue if there's anything that I didn't include.

Chris Fenton: No, I think that's right on target.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. We have a question asking if we could please share the link for the monitoring protocol. How will grantees be receiving the questions for the monitoring protocol?

Chris Fenton: When you receive your email from your program officer, there'll be a copy of that agenda. And basically, what you saw in those four slides with the questions, that's essentially the protocol, just built around the topic a little more clearly.

Lakesha McKenzi...: One of the grantees is asking if we could type the questions for the first review to the chat. They want to stop preparing the today. Do you want me to do that, or should we wait until we send it via email when the program officer send the protocol to grantees?

Laura Jimenez: Let's wait until we have the formal document to send.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay, thank you. What information is of available to help support states as we begin to look at component for programmatic monitoring?

Chris Fenton: I do have the copies of all the old protocols from the more extensive monitoring activities on the website and links are in this presentation as well. In addition to that, the monitoring reports are also online. Most of the reports are pre-pandemic just because of the timing of everything, but it still has a lot of the same basic information. Again, since [Ester and Gear 00:21:28] and the new programs are so new, we don't have the comprehensive reports online for that, but there are a couple of the consolidated monitoring reports from earlier in the grant cycles.

But again, those reports, even the non-Ester and Gear reports can be very helpful just to frame out the types of information you might expect to see. All of the protocols, a lot of it's built around the fiscal information, which is all based on uniform guidance, which, it's pretty standard across the grants as well.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you, Chris. We have another question. Who from the department monitoring team will be on the call for each state? Who will be on the call from the department on each call for each state? I'm sorry.

Chris Fenton: Generally speaking, once we get rolling with it, it'll be the program officer and the team lead from the regional team, more likely than not. Even though these are monitoring activities and they are formal, it's a little bit of a less intensive, I guess, maybe way to do it, hopefully with monitoring. It'll be more conversational, and like I said, focused on the specific topic. So again, hopefully, it'll make a little more sense once we get rolling with it.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you. And we have another question, is more so a reporting question. When will the quarterly report be due?

Chris Fenton: I don't have any information on that, [Laquisha 00:23:17].

Lakesha McKenzi...: I was wondering if-

Laura Jimenez: What do you mean by the quarterly report?

(Silence).

Lakesha McKenzi...: [inaudible 00:23:33], can you provide some more details for your question, please? Because perhaps they are asking about the monitoring, but maybe used the word report. I'll wait to see if we get more details about the question. I'm going to move on. We will email documentation for the quarterly meeting, and then there will be a one-hour call to follow up. The answer is yes. They're asking will they be sending the documentation in advance of the actual call to discuss the documentation that was submitted.

Chris Fenton: Yes.

Laura Jimenez: Yeah.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay, we do have another question. Looking ahead, do you have a calendar of when SCAs will be monitored?

Chris Fenton: Specifically for the quarterly reviews or in general? We do have a couple of reviews that we're in the logistics stage right now, but that will definitely be later in the year. We're working on setting up schedules for the California and the Wisconsin comprehensive monitoring.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. Thank you, Chris. We have another question. Will universal quarterly monitoring inform the department's risk assessment for more intensive monitoring?

Chris Fenton: At any point, we could use the results of monitoring to impact the risk of scores, sure, but I think the goal is mainly to try and address issues in a more timely fashion so that they don't become a risk, if that makes sense.

Lakesha McKenzi...: [Burnelle 00:25:38] Cook asked which interim final rule were you referring to?

Laura Jimenez: I believe it was published in the federal register on April 22nd, 2021, and it addresses the LEA plans.

Chris Fenton: There should be links to that as well on the Ester website.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you, Laura and Chris.

Chris Fenton: [crosstalk 00:26:10]. Go ahead.

Lakesha McKenzi...: No, I was just saying thank you. Were you going to say something, Chris?

Chris Fenton: Yeah, I was just going to say that, for right now, we're looking at the quarters for just the fiscal year. Federal fiscal year quarters is the way we're thinking about it. Somebody mentioned typical quarters in a year.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. We have another question. All states will have a quarterly review in either March or April. They want confirmation. All the states will have completed their first quarterly review in either March or April. Is that the plan?

Chris Fenton: That is the plan.

Lakesha McKenzi...: The next question was when will this be due for the first quarter? I think what they're asking is when would the documentation be due? They say this, but I'm assuming you mean the documentation. If that's not correct, you can correct me in the chat, but when would the documentation be due for the first quarter? The first quarterly [crosstalk 00:27:16] ...

Chris Fenton: The goal is to give at least a few weeks lead for the documentation submission. This first quarter may be a little bit compressed and we'll certainly work with



you on an individual basis as much as we can, if you do have serious issues. But I think that information will be more specific in the upcoming emails from your program officers in the next week or two.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. We have a grantee who joined a little late. I just want to confirm for you, yes, the PowerPoint will be made available along with the recording. Yes, that will be available on the [inaudible 00:27:54] resources page within about a week or so. We have another question. Can you expand a little bit further on the program monitoring-

Lakesha McKenzi...: Can you expand a little bit further on the program monitoring protocols? Need more information about location. Location? It's going to be virtual. It's not going to be an in-person review. It's going to be over the phone, to answer your question about location. I hope that answers-

Chris Fenton: And the protocols are posted on the website as well. The quarterly questions, they're not really protocols in a sense. It is, but it's the questions change because the topics change. So we don't post the specific quarterly protocol. That'll come to you via email.

Lakesha McKenzi...: All right. We have the question. When will we be having these monitoring calls? Just want to confirm the first quarterly reviews will be in March or April, depending on when your scheduled with your program officer.

Chris Fenton: Right.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. Can you help me understand how this comprehensive monitoring document interacts with the quarterly monitoring process? And they put a link there. Let's see what this is.

Chris Fenton: I'm not exactly sure what they mean by interacts, but it's all rooted in the program requirements. All the different types of monitoring that we do are meant to provide a more overarching view into the activities of grantees and provides us with different ways to, I guess, look into the different things that are going on in the field. And all of that as well, we take back and look at ways that we can improve our processes as well. So it's just another means of meeting a goal in our portfolio, really.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. Thank you, Chris. And back to that question we got earlier about when the quarterly report will be due. So the grantee did clarify, when they say report, they're referring to the full question. So they were asking, when will the answers to those questions be due? And Chris answered that question. And you can just verify with me, Chris. I believe you said all of the details, as far as the due date, will be in the note, the email that you'll receive from your program officer.

Chris Fenton: That's right. That's right. And we definitely want to provide a reasonable amount of lead time to put together the answers for the questions and to put together the documentation.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Yeah. Because I'm thinking that might be the overall concern. Will you have enough time to prepare your answers before the call? And the answer to that is, yes. We definitely want to give you at least three-weeks time to prepare your answers before your call.

Chris Fenton: And I think, too, one thing, since this is going to be a regular occurrence, the rhythm is going to be a thing that we're going to get in the groove of, so to speak. So I think once we get rolling with the quarter reviews, it'll be easier to get the information to you on the front end faster. It'll be easier to get the logistics set up quicker, et cetera. So we'll definitely work with you as much as we can to make it a smooth process.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. We have another question. Amber's asking, "Are the quarterly reviews, the typical quarters of the year, or are we on a different quarterly schedule?" I can answer that, and, Chris, you can verify. The answer is, yes. We're trying to align the quarterly reviews as much as possible to the regular quarters of the year, of the calendar year, or is it of the fiscal year, Chris?

Chris Fenton: We're looking at the fiscal year, currently. The fiscal year.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. We have another question. States are getting a lot of request for updates, information, et cetera, by the department, from multiple people at the department. Please consider being more collaborative in what you ask from states. Okay. That's not a question. It is a recommended.

And I just want to say that we do understand that we ask you for a lot of information, and I understand that anytime you have to step away from your desk and collect information, it is time taken away from actually implementing a grant. But because of the amount of money on these grants, there's a lot of scrutiny. And so we do have to do our due diligence in ensuring that the fidelity of the grants are upheld. So that is the reason for coming to you multiple times needing information. And a lot of the times, it's not just from our office, it's coming from even higher leadership requesting this information and needing this information. Chris or Laura, if you wanted to expound upon what I just shared with the grantee, please do so.

Laura Jimenez: Thanks, LaKeshia. I will also say that we are actively working on ensuring that we are proactive in communicating with various stakeholders' information so that we can reduce the number of requests that we make of states for information, especially at the last minute. So we are aware of it, and are actively working to create a system to help it be much more manageable for everyone.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Yes. Thank you, Laura. We have another question. Will this quarterly monitoring include ESSR1, ESSR2, and ARP homeless activities? Can you also speak to plan for IDEA, [inaudible 00:34:22], and opt-in monitoring?

Chris Fenton: So the quarterly concept can be adapted to fit different programs. SGR only deals with the ESSR, ESSR2, GEAR, GEAR2, AIMS, and the ARP ESSER grants. We don't handle the, what was that, the ARP IDEA and the homeless grants there. So those would not be included, but in future iterations of the quarterly reviews, the topics could include information from other grants besides the ARP ESSR frame.

Laura Jimenez: And one of the earlier slides, we covered the topics of the first three quarterly reviews. Two will be ARP ESSR, one will be AIMS.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you. I want to go back to a question that was asked earlier because the grantee, Dotty, she has expounded upon her question to provide more clarity. So her question was, "Can you expand a little bit further on the program monitoring protocols? I need more information about the location." And when she says location, she's referring to where to find the documents that we can use to do our LEA monitoring protocols.

Chris Fenton: Okay. I'm still a little bit confused. Now, we have protocols that are posted online. The one that you seem to be referring to is the comprehensive protocol, which does have extensive sections on things like allocations, sub-recipient monitoring, equitable services, internal control, things like that. It has a lot of different sections. Those are different from the quarterly review monitoring activities. It's a different type of monitoring. It all gets thrown into the same bucket of monitoring. So I'm just a little bit confused in terms of, you mentions, where do we find documents that we can use to do our LEA monitoring protocols? You could certainly look at the protocols and the sections that describe what we would be looking for in sub-recipient monitoring and use those as guidelines. There's a lot of information and uniform guidance as well.

In all these protocols that are posted, the comprehensive protocols, it does provide citations as well to some of the requirements. So you can look into those as well, but I'm not sure. Hopefully that got to some of the information.

Laura Jimenez: And when we post the protocols for quarterly reviews, we will let grantees know where those are located on our website, but we will also be sending them out directly to our contacts through the G5 system.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you. Yes. And Dotty just added that, "We are looking for more information about what the expectations are for the SEA to monitor the LEAs for compliance. That was the reasoning behind her questions that she asked.

Okay, we have another question. Is there a possibility of delaying rescheduling individual SEA appointments? As you may know, the annual asset reporting, or

APR, will overlap with the quarterly review. They will be taking place around the same time.

Chris Fenton: We'll definitely try to be mindful of conflicts. But again, we are trying to get to all states during this time period, and we'll try and work, as best as we can, through the program officers to make sure that your needs are being met. But we do need to make sure we get the first calls scheduled within that timeframe.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. Let see. Why can't we see the questions from the other panelists in our chat? I'm not sure why you cannot see the questions from the other panelists. That's a question that our logistical support can answer towards the end of the webinar.

Let me see. I think the current request refers to the fact that [inaudible 00:39:23] funding without sub-recipient monitoring tools. Okay. That's a statement. We don't have any other questions. Did you want to address that, Chris?

Chris Fenton: I think I can clear that up. I think that's a confusion. So there are two protocols there in the larger monitoring events. We interview SEA staff folks. And then we also interview LEA staff folks. That's not because we're monitoring those LEAs. It's because we use those interviews and that information from LEAs to triangulate and verify the information that we're getting from the SEA. So a big part of an SEA's responsibility is sub-recipient monitoring. And by talking to the LEAs that they have oversight with, that we can help establish how that's happening, I guess, I guess, I guess, is a good way to put it. So you can definitely learn a lot about what we would expect an SEA to do in terms of sub-recipient monitoring by looking at the protocols. But those are not specifically protocols that are meant to be a template or a tool for an SEA, so to speak.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you, Chris. Is it possible that we could unmute the participants for a moment so that if anyone who is joined by phone has an opportunity to ask a question?

Tegan: All right. If you'd like to ask your questions verbally, you can select the raise hand icon in WebEx to virtually raise your hand. You'll hear a notification when your line is unmuted. It'll be a beep. And then you can go ahead and verbally ask your question.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you, Tegan. At this present time, I don't see more written questions from the participants. So we'll just pause to see if anyone who is by phone has a question.

Chris Fenton: And if any of y'all are like I am, immediately upon leaving the call today, you'll have 100 questions that'll pop into your head. You can always feel free to send any questions or thoughts to your program officers as well.

Tegan: I'm not showing any questions at this time.

Tegan: I'm not showing any questions at this time.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. Thank you, Tegan. I have a question that just popped up. It is, would the department be considering not requiring states who are selected for comprehensive monitoring to be removed from the quarterly ESSER monitoring? So, will the states who are selected for comprehensive monitoring also be required to participate in the quarterly monitoring?

Laura Jimenez: I'm happy to answer that. We will be doing quarterly monitoring reviews for all 50 states, DC and Puerto Rico, regardless of them being scheduled for another type of monitoring event, and this is because for quarterly monitoring reviews, these are much more focused on high priority issues, and these are issues that would not be covered in comprehensive or other monitoring events, but we will happily schedule those so that they are not overlapping and you're not doing the both monitoring events at the same time.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you, Laura. Okay. Are there any other questions? We have another question. Will there be a quarterly monitoring for AIMS?

Chris Fenton: One of the upcoming quarterly topics does apply to AIMS. And like I said, from quarter to quarter, the topics will change and it could be a different grant area, but like Laura mentioned, it'll be a very tightly focused request.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you, Chris.

Tegan: All right. Looks like we do have a hand raised. Caller, your line is [crosstalk 00:44:41]

Tegan: Thank you. Hi, this is Dotty. I'm going to try to explain my crazy question. I don't think I'm maybe framing it right. I totally understand what you guys are talking about in regards to the quarterly reviews and how that will shake out. I guess my question is more for, as someone at the state department, and I'm assuming we have to do monitoring of our LEAs and how they're using the funds for all of their ESSER money. My question is, are there any specific examples of what that monitoring can look like, and I'm talking about a programmatic side monitoring rather than a fiscal monitoring. I feel like we've got our hands really figured out what that's going to look like fiscally. I just am not sure what it should or if it is required for programmatic monitoring.

Chris Fenton: Okay. So all federal funds require sub-recipient monitoring. All federal funds that have sub-recipients require monitoring. So, the closest thing I can say to something that you're probably already doing that you can steal from is probably title one monitoring. It's going to be really similar to something like that, I would say. And again, if you look at the protocols that we have for the comprehensive monitoring that you put a link to, I think, that section on sub-

recipient monitoring, those questions sort of frame out some of our expectations, but you can look more closely at the reference in your form guidance as well, as some of the assurances that are in the actual grant application for these grants or the certification agreements or whatever it was back in the beginning. And we'll give you some elements.

Tegan: Okay, Chris, is there a timeline for what the expectation is that we start that monitoring? Are we behind the eight ball in regards to not getting that started yet?

Chris Fenton: I would definitely say it should be going on, and part of the game is risk assessment and determination and things like that. So, I would say by now, you should probably have some sort of updated risk assessment to include the new grants that you're dealing with. And that should that risk assessment will help drive determinations about who gets monitored, and then what type of monitoring. Certainly we try and model as an agency, we try and model some of these elements. So, what we do with you all is our sub-recipient monitoring. So, when we monitor our sub-recipients, that's kind of the same idea that would drive what you would do with your LEAs.

Tegan: Well, I'm feeling good. I'm feeling good about the risk assessment piece. We have that in place, so it's just a matter of really putting, like I said, in the fiscal piece, I feel like we have in place, but it's probably more the programmatic that we need to really kick into high gear right now.

Chris Fenton: Yeah, I'd say so. And again, it's a good idea to coordinate between the fiscal and program size as well. And again, I'm not sure exactly how your state is arranged, organizationally speaking, but it's similar to a lot of the activities you probably are already doing for the other big formula programs.

Tegan: Well, that helps that they started with Title One. That makes a difference too. And then, looking at the program that calls for comprehensive. That will help too.

Chris Fenton: Yeah.

Tegan: Okay. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

Chris Fenton: Sure.

Lakesha McKenzi...: All right. Do we have any more questions? Let me see.

Chris Fenton: I just saw one there, Lakeisha, that said if there is an issue, if we're just beginning monitor this fall. I think the main thing is, if we looked right now at your cyber safety and monitoring and you hadn't done anything, we might make a recommendation that you start kicking it in the gear a little more. But I think, as long as you do have a plan, and as long as the process meets the

requirements, and as long as you're getting there, that's the big thing that we'll look for, certainly.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Okay. We're just pausing to see if any more questions pop up for us to answer. And right now, I'm not seeing any additional questions. All right, so I will turn it over to Laura, but before I do, I want to just thank you all for participating today. We really appreciate you taking time out of your day to participate in this webinar and ask your questions so that you can fulfill the requirements for the quarterly review. And if you have a question that did not get answered, or you think of your question later, you can always send your question to your program officer, to your state mailbox. Okay? And so that you can get your answers to any questions that come up later. We'll make sure that we follow up with more details about the quarterly reviews as well. And we want to thank you. We hope you enjoy the rest of your day. Chris, is there anything that you wanted to add before I turn it over to Laura?

Chris Fenton: I don't have anything else to add. Thanks a lot. And thanks, Lakeisha, for helping us out and thanks for all of the excellent grantees that attended.

Laura Jimenez: Great. Thank you all so much. If you do have specific questions that come to mind later, or that you did not get a satisfactory answer for, please email your state inbox and tag it in the subject line, quarterly reviews or monitoring questions, and then I will ask my team to send those to me ASAP so we can prioritize getting you an answer right away. Thank you so much.

Lakesha McKenzi...: Thank you. Thank you, Laura. So before I log off of the webinar today, I am going to put the entire link in the chat. So, if you want to hang on before you hang up, you will see that entire link spelled out so that you can just copy it to your browser, or perhaps your computer will allow you to go straight to the link, to the ARP ESSER resources page. So I will do that for you, and everyone else who needs that link, but also be reminded that it is in your email. The email that I sent from G5 went to whomever is listed as your project director and your authorized official on your grant. And so that link to the ARP ESSER resources page is in your inbox as well, and I will also drop it here in the chat before I hang up. So, I'm going to turn it over to Tegan, our event producer. Thank you so much, Tegan. Thank you, Laura. Thank you, Chris. And thank you to all the grantees who participated today.

Tegan: Well, that concludes our conference. Thank you for using Event Services. You may now disconnect.