

Spring 2022

Federal Relief Programs Update



Chris Neale, Assistant Commissioner

Fund Status Update



Grant Program	LEA Allocations	Grant Purposes	Current Status
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)	\$192,131,014	COVID Response	\$187,598,970 Distributed
Missouri Student Connectivity (ESSER & GEER)	\$20,399,380	Student Devices	\$17,176,974 Distributed
Transportation Supplement (GEER)	\$15,258,661	Extra Transportation Costs	\$9,807,689 Distributed
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief II (ESSER II)	\$784,055,062	COVID Response	\$406,337,481 Distributed
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER III)	\$1,762,124,652	COVID Response	Available Applications 99% approved

As of March 1, 2022

Expiring Sept. 30, 2022

Student Connectivity



- Grants for student Wi-Fi devices
- *Of the 418 LEAs with allocations, 191 have remaining funds (\$5,321,731).*
- For information on allocations and applications, see the [COVID Relief Information](#) page.
- Complete the Final Expenditure Report in ePeGS as soon as the grant is complete.

Transportation Supplement



- Grants for extraordinary expenses
- *Of the 539 LEAs with allocations, 237 have remaining funds (\$5,356,972).*
- For information on allocations and applications, see the [COVID Relief Information](#) page.
- Complete the Final Expenditure Report in ePeGS as soon as the grant is complete.

ESSER I



- Grants for COVID response
- *Of the LEAs with allocations, 106 have remaining funds (\$7,541,680).*
- Monitoring is underway
- Complete the FER and submit Tiered Monitoring information
- Monitoring is risk-based

As of March 1, 2022

Expiring Sept. 30, 2023



- Grants to LEAs to respond to COVID-19
- *Of the 552 LEAs with allocations, 307 have remaining funds (\$377,717,581).*
- For information on allocations, see the [COVID Relief Information](#) page.
- Complete the Final Expenditure Report in ePeGS as soon as the grant is complete.

Expiring Sept. 30, 2024

ARP ESSER (ESSER III) - LEAs



- Grants for COVID response
- 98+% applications approved
- Revision due to reallocation needed
- Funds appropriated February 24, 2022
- Payment requests available February 28, 2022



- Missouri budgeting 31% for impact of lost instruction!
 - ❑ Tutoring
 - ❑ SEL/Mental Health
- Be sure to vet instructional resources and Professional Development
- Missouri budgeting 15% for mitigation



- Primary uses of the “up to 80%”:
 - ❑ Indoor Air Quality
 - ❑ Facilities
 - ❑ Technology
 - ❑ Continuity of Operations

ARP ESSER (ESSER III) - DESE



- Awaiting appropriation of the state reserve
- Summer learning grants (1% reserve) being developed
- Afterschool grants (1% reserve) being developed

Maintenance of Equity

What is Maintenance of Equity?



- Maintenance of Equity (MOEquity)
 - ❑ ensures highest poverty schools do not receive disproportionate reductions in per-pupil *funding* or *staffing*;
 - ❑ applies to all LEAs that receive ARP ESSER (ESSER III) funds; and
 - ❑ requires LEAs maintain fiscal and staffing equity for FY 22 and FY 23.

Maintenance of Equity (MOEquity)



- LEAs may be automatically excepted if the LEA
 - ❑ has a total enrollment of less than 1,000 students;
 - ❑ operates a single school; or
 - ❑ serves all students within each grade span in a single school.
- The automatic exception status list can be found [here](#).

LEAs not Automatically Excepted



- LEAs not automatically excepted may receive an exception if they can demonstrate an *exceptional or uncontrollable circumstance*.
- Two levels of exception:
 - 1) DESE
 - 2) Federal



- Of Missouri's LEAs,
 - ❑ 3 did not receive ESSER III (*no MOEquity*)
 - ❑ 455 are automatically excepted
 - ❑ 96 should seek exceptions
- MOEquity Webinar was held on February 24 (slides here)
- The guidance document and exception list are posted on DESE's website
- Submit Certification of Exception or Calculations by 3/15

Recap



Received ESSER III

- MOEquity applies

Automatically Excepted

- DESE identifies and maintains documentation
- No action needed

No State and Local Reduction

- Upload the Certification of Exception with DESE (Appendix A)

State and Local Reduction

- Request exception from Missouri.OESE@ed.gov, if applicable
- Copy MOEquity_ARP@dese.mo.gov

Calculate

- If no exception, then calculate compliance

Identifying High-Poverty Schools



School	Percentage Economic Deprivation	Grade Span		LEA as a Whole Method	Grade Span Method
A	80%	Elementary		Yes	Yes
B	75%	Elementary		Yes	No
C	70%	Elementary		No	No
D	65%	Elementary		No	No
E	60%	Middle		No	Yes
F	55%	Middle		No	No
G	55%	High		No	No

Maintenance of Equity (MOEquity)



- Must meet both tests* for FY 22

Fiscal Test	School A's reduction in \$/pupil from FY 21 to FY 22 \leq LEA-wide reduction in \$/pupil from FY 21 to FY 22
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Staffing Test	School A's reduction in staff/pupil from FY 21 to FY 22 \leq LEA-wide reduction in staff/pupil from FY 21 to FY 22
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- Similar test required for FY 23 compared to FY 22

*for all high-poverty schools

Technical Assistance



- If calculations indicate the LEA did not maintain equity, DESE will provide technical assistance.
- LEA will upload calculations.
- DESE will analyze and provide possible solutions for the LEA to consider.
- Example: LEA may need to adjust spending so that high-poverty buildings receive more state and local funding while others are supported by federal relief funds.



- Second year of reporting
- Period of performance
 - ❑ ESSER I: October 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021
 - ❑ ESSER II: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021
- Data collection planned for April 2022
- *DESE collecting only mandatory data*

ESSER Data Collection



- Areas for LEA response:
 - ❑ Expenditures and planned uses of funds
 - ❑ Across ESSER I and ESSER II
- Areas of effort:
 - ❑ Physical Health and Safety
 - ❑ Meeting Students' Academic, Social, Emotional, and Other Needs
 - ❑ Mental Health Supports for Students and Staff
 - ❑ Operational Continuity and Other Allowed Uses



- Specific questions:
 - ❑ Use of funds for mitigation
 - ❑ Use of funds for internet access for families
 - ❑ Reengaging students
 - ❑ Building allocation methodology

ESSER Data Collection



- Two more years of reporting
- ESSER III will be added next year
- New areas of data collection expected
- DESE using web form rather than Wufoo collection



Monitoring

Monitoring



- ESSER I monitoring is under way.
- Monitoring is risk-based.
- Submit information through Tiered Monitoring.
- Proper coding is critical.
- *Our goal is compliance, not penalty.*

Other Items to Note



- Skills to help identify and respond to mental health needs
 - ❑ Adults
 - ❑ Youth
- Free training through Missouri Institute of Mental Health
- Request training here.

Summer School Grant



- Grants for schools that did not offer *state funded* summer school last summer
- Application to open early April
- Guidance to be posted on DESE COVID Relief Information page



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