



**ARPA ESSER (III)**

**American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act:  
Elementary and Secondary School  
Emergency Relief**

<https://www.education.nh.gov/american-rescue-plan-act-elementary-and-secondary-school-emergency-relief-fund>

# What is the ARPA ESSER (III) Grant?



New Hampshire

Department of Education

- On Thursday, March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law.
  - It is an unprecedented \$1.9 trillion package of assistance measures, including \$122 billion for the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARPA ESSER) Fund.
  - Funds are provided to State educational agencies and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the Nation's students.
  - On March 24, 2021, the State of New Hampshire received 2/3s of the total ARPA ESSER funds.
    - An initial 2/3s (Phase I) of the ARPA ESSER funds were released to all states.
    - The remaining 1/3 (Phase II) will be available following the submission of NH's ARP ESSER State plan due to US ED on 6/7/2021. Upon the NH DoE's receipt of the remaining 1/3 (Phase II), the LEA allocations will be released to you.
- The timeline for USED's review of the State plan is unknown and will be determined by US ED.



## Important Dates to Remember

May 24, 2021:  
Phase I of ARPA ESSER (III) fund allocations released.  
*This is 2/3s of the total ARPA ESSER (III) grant.*



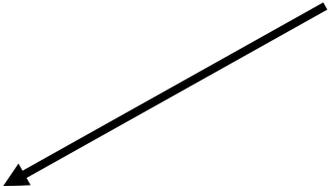
This begins the 30 window for the LEA Reopening Plan.  
**Due June 23, 2021.**



**June 1, 2021** – LEAs to return Data Request Excel document to NH DoE.



June 7, 2021  
NH DoE to submit State plan to US ED for review



**TBD by US ED:**  
Release of remaining 1/3 of ARPA ESSER (III) funds *after submission and review of NH State plan*



## What makes a successful GMS application?

Grant name in GMS: **ARPA ESSER III**



- Contact your i4See Coordinator if you are having difficulty logging in or locating the ARPA ESSER III grant in GMS.
  - ❖ Access does not automatically roll over from year to year. NH DoE cannot assist with this.
  
- Complete and Execute your ARPA ESSER III Program Assurances and GEPA document to the ARPA ESSER III grant.
  1. These two documents are included within one document.
  2. All pages must be uploaded.
  3. Documents must be completed and executed.

*\*\*Please do not upload a Program Assurances or GEPA document from another grant.*
  
- Answer all questions.
  
- Provide your DUNS number.
  
- Submit at least one activity for approval.
  
- Every activity **MUST** have a category selected from the drop-down menu.
  - ❖ “N/A” is not a category – it is an indication no category has been selected. Your grant will be returned.



Information to  
help you:

Where is the LEA Reopening Plan template located?

Per your request, NH DOE drafted an LEA Reopening Plan template, which is located:

❖ In email: Sent to Superintendents and Business Administrators

❖ On the NH DoE ARPA ESSER III Webpage:

<https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/arp-esser-lea-reopening-plan-template.pdf>

Please return the LEA Reopening Plan template to: Liz McCormack at [Elizabeth.D.McCormack@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.D.McCormack@doe.nh.gov)



Information to help you:

What guidance would you provide an LEA in the development of its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of service if the LEA has already been conducting instruction in person?

“An LEA’s safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of service plan (required under section 2001(i) of the ARP Act) must address:

- How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the safety recommendations established by the CDC (and outlined in the link, below); and
- How the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

If an LEA has already returned students to 100 percent full-time in-person instruction, its responses to these questions should focus on its current and future activities to keep students and staff safe and ensure continuity of services.”

<https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ARP-ESSER-Plan-Office-Hours-5.6.21.pdf>



Information to help  
you:

What is the definition of learning loss?

“The ARP ESSER State Plan template uses the term “academic impact of lost instructional time” to refer to learning loss. Generally, the academic impact of lost instructional time is the impact experienced by students as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and which may have impacted whether students are meeting grade-level standards. Information about addressing the impact of lost instructional time can be found in the ED COVID-19 Handbook Volume 2: Roadmap to Reopening Schools Safely and Meeting All Students' Needs (April 9, 2021, pgs18-37) available at: <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening-2.pdf>.”

<https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ARP-ESSER-Plan-Office-Hours-5.13.21-1.pdf>



Information to  
help you:

How is "meaningful" stakeholder consultation defined for purposes of the ARP ESSER requirements?

“Stakeholder engagement is a core element of the State and LEA planning process for the use of ARP ESSER funds. The Interim Final Rule (IFR) and the ARP ESSER State Plan template include a specific list of stakeholders with which an SEA or LEA must consult. Each SEA must describe the specific consultation that is conducted for each of these groups. We believe that it is important that each SEA ensures that consultation is broad and represents the diversity of the community within the State.

Meaningful consultation for the ARP ESSER State Plan may take different forms. We recognize and respect the work that States and school districts are already doing and have been doing throughout the pandemic to engage their communities. The description included in the State Plan must include how the SEA provided the public the opportunity to provide input in the development of the plan, a summary of the input (including any letters of support), and how the SEA took such input into account.

Stakeholder consultation is essential and we look forward to seeing and being able to amplify best practices on how States and LEAs are engaging the diverse communities that they serve.”

<https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ARP-ESSER-Plan-Office-Hours-5.6.21.pdf>



Information to help you:

## How is "meaningful" stakeholder consultation defined for purposes of the ARP ESSER requirements? *CONTINUED*

Federal guidance on LEA Plans for Use of ARP ESSER Funds may help further advise LEA Reopening Plans. That guidance states meaningful consultation with stakeholders includes, but is not limited to:

- “students;
- families;
- school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and
- teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.

The LEA must also engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following to the extent present in or served by the LEA:

- Tribes;
- civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and
- stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.”

[https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/04/ARP-ESSER-State-Plan-Template-04-20-2021\\_130PM.pdf](https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/04/ARP-ESSER-State-Plan-Template-04-20-2021_130PM.pdf)

Again, these federal requirements apply to the LEA Plans for Use of ARP ESSER Funds and do not apply to the LEA Reopening Plans. This information is intended to provide helpful context addressing questions received.



Information to help  
you:

## Reporting

*Will there be other reporting requirements for ARPA ESSER (III) funds, similar to reporting requirement under the CARES and CRRSA Acts?*

“Yes. The Department (US ED) is working on establishing the reporting requirements for upcoming collections.”

<https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ARP-ESSER-Plan-Office-Hours-5.6.21.pdf>

*Does the State of New Hampshire know what US ED will request?*

No.



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