LEA ARP ESSER Plan: "A Plan for the LEA's Use of ARP ESSER Funds"

Please submit in both Excel and PDF form to ESSER@doe.nh.gov by 1/13/2023.

The American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief ("ARP ESSER") Fund, authorized under the American Rescue Plan ("ARP")

Act of 2021, provides New Hampshire over \$350 million to support schools in safely reopening and sustaining safe operations of schools while meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students resulting from the coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") pandemic.

This mandatory template is intended to collect all federally required information from an LEA in a convenient format and to assist LEAs in meeting the federal requirement that, requirement that, an LEA shall publish an LEA ARP ESSER Plan, which is often called a "school district use of funds plan." See the Department of Education's most current guidance posted here: https://omb.report/icr/202201-1810-002/doc/117519100.

For further context, please reference ARPA (https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text) or the Interim Final Requirements of ARP ESSER in which the U.S. Department of Education established these requirements (https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-04-22/pdf/2021-08359.pdf).

	I. General Information	
1) School District / Charter School Name:	North Country Charter Academy	→ Cell C18 Must be Input for Formulas to
2) District ID Number:	<u>703</u>	→ Autopopulates upon Selection
3) SAU Number:	<u>401</u>	→ Autopopulates upon Selection
4) Date of Publication:	1/6/2023	
5) Approver Name - (Superintendent / Head of School):	Lisa Lavoie	
6) Email & Telephone:	llavoie@nccharteracademy.org 603-444-1535	

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1)	his plan for the LEA's Use of ARP ESSER funds was published and made publicly available online at the followin	ıg
	ecific web address:	

Yes - Description Required

Description:

www.northcountrycharteracademy.com

2) The plan is in an understandable and uniform format (please choose one):

Yes - Description Required

Description:

The plan is in the format provided

3) The plan, to the extent practicable, is written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, orally translated (please choose one):

Yes - Description Required

Description:

The plan is in plain English, if translation is needed, we can accommodate and assist

4) The plan, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, is provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent (please choose one):

Yes - Description Required

Description:

Upon requests alternative formats will be provided

III. Stakeholder Engagement

Best Practices in Implementing ARP ESSER LEA Use of Funds Plan

 How the LEA provided the public the opportunity to provide input in the development of the LEA's plan for the use of ARP ESSER funds:

Yes - Description Required

Description:

Stakeholders were a part of developing the LEA's plan on multiple occasions. For the public involvement, a public hearing was held on October 21, 2022 where the ESSER III budget was proposed and the use of funds template has also been on our school website.

2) How the LEA took public input into account regarding the development of the LEA's plan for the use of ARP ESSER funds (please choose one):

Yes - Description Required

Description:

Stakeholders were a part of developing the LEA's plan on multiple occasions. For the public involvement a Public Hearing was held on October 21, 2021 where the ESSER III budget was proposed and the use of funds template has also been on our school website.

- 3) How the LEA engaged in meaningful consultation with specific stakeholders, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Students (please choose one):

Yes - Description Required

1) Description:

Stakeholders were a part of developing the LEA's plan on multiple occasions. For the public involvement, a public hearing was held on October 21, 2022 where the ESSER III budget was proposed and the use of funds template has also been on our school website.

- i) Number of total responses: 58
- ii) Uses consulted on: We asked if there were any specific suggestions/recommendations on how NCCA could spend the funds to address any of the academic needs, social-emotional needs, mental health needs, at-risk populations, special education services, English language learner supports, and others. We also asked if there were any Covid prevention and mitigation strategies they would like to see implemented with the funds. All teachers met one on one with each student and parent at a scheduled meeting. During this meeting the teachers discussed the grant award to the school provided a survey for students to make recommendations.
- iii) Description of feedback received: There was no feedback received

Please indicate how consultation was:

- 2) Inclusive: Every student was given a survey to participate
- 3) Widely advertised and available: Survey is part of intake interview paperwork and is also posted on our website.
- 4) Ongoing: We have a rolling admission so we continually ask for the survey to be taken. The survey is also posted on our website for anyone to submit new recommendations on the use of funds as well as Esser funds are included as a discussion topic at our School Board Meetings. Moving
- b. Families (please choose one):

Yes - Description Required

1) Description:

Stakeholders were a part of developing the LEA's plan on multiple occasions. For the public involvement, a public hearing was held on October 21, 2022 where the ESSER III budget was proposed and the use of funds template has also been on our school website.

- i) Number of total responses: 58
- ii) Uses consulted on: We asked if there were any specific suggestions/recommendations on how NCCA could spend the funds to address any of the academic needs, social-emotional needs, mental health needs, at-risk populations, special education services, English language learner supports, and other. We also asked if there were any Covid prevention and mitigation strategies they would like to see implemented with the funds. All teachers met one on one with each student and their parent/guardian at a scheduled meeting. During this meeting the teachers discussed the grant award to the school provided a survey for students to make recommendations.
- iii) Description of feedback received: The use of funding was discussed

Please indicate how consultation was:

- 2) Inclusive: All parents who attend an intake interview are given a survey to fill out
- 3) Widely advertised and available: Survey is part of intake interview paperwork and is also posted on our website.
- 4) Ongoing: We have a rolling admission so we continually ask for the survey. During the scheduled meeting, parents were informed that the survey is also posted on our website for anyone to submit new recommendations on the use of funds as well as Esser funds are included as a discussion topic

 $c. \ School \ and \ district \ administrators, including \ special \ education \ administrators \ (please \ choose \ one):$

Yes - Description Required

1) Description:

Stakeholders were a part of developing the LEA's plan on multiple occasions. For the public involvement, a public hearing was held on October 21, 2022 where the ESSER III budget was proposed and the use of funds template has also been on our school website.

- i) Number of total responses: 8
- ii) Uses consulted on: We asked if there were any specific suggestions/recommendations on how NCCA could spend the funds to address any of the academic needs, social-emotional needs, mental health needs, at-risk populations, special education services, English language learner supports, and other. We also asked if there were any Covid prevention and mitigation strategies they would like to see implemented with the funds. Staff wellness, professional development, experiential learning opportunities and student supplies are continuously consulted on.
- iii) Description of feedback received: Better air flow in classroom, more field trips, more hands on programs, more windows, mental health counselor for students and staff, growth mindset speakers, help students develop a plan beyond high school, snacks for kids, CTE coordination

Please indicate how consultation was:

- 2) Inclusive: All staff members were given a survey at mandatory orientation
- 3) Widely advertised and available: Survey is available on our website and extra copies are placed in the SAU office.
- 4) Ongoing: When and if we have any new hires, they will fill out this survey as well. The survey is also posted on our website for anyone to submit new recommendations on the use of funds as well as Esser funds are included as a discussion topic at our School Board Meetings. Esser funds are discussed monthly at staff meetings.
- d. Teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions (please choose one):

Yes - Description Required

1) Description:

Stakeholders were a part of developing the LEA's plan on multiple occasions. For the public involvement, a public hearing was held on October 21, 2022 where the ESSER III budget was proposed and the use of funds template has also been on our school website.

- i) Number of total responses: 8
- ii) Uses consulted on: We asked if there were any specific suggestions/recommendations on how NCCA could spend the funds to address any of the academic needs, social-emotional needs, mental health needs, at-risk populations, special education services, English language learner supports, and other. We also asked if there were any Covid prevention and mitigation strategies they would like to see implemented with the funds. Staff wellness, professional development, experiential learning opportunities and student supplies are continuously consulted on.
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- e. Tribes, if applicable (please choose one):

No

1) Description:

There are no tribes in the area to consult on

i) Number of total responses: N/A ii) Uses consulted on: N/A iii) Description of feedback received: N/A

Please indicate how consultation was:

- 2) Inclusive: N/A
- 3) Widely advertised and available: N/A
- 4) Ongoing: N/A
- f. Civil rights organizations, including disability rights organizations (please check one):

No

1) Description:

No civil rights organizations or diability rights organizations in our community

- i) Number of total responses: N/A
- ii) Uses consulted on: N/A
- iii) Description of feedback received: N/A

Please indicate how consultation was:

- 2) Inclusive: N/A
- 3) Widely advertised and available: N/A
- 4) Ongoing: N/A
- g. 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 (please choose one):
 - Yes Description Required
 - 1) Description:

These stakeholders are included in Part C as well.

- i) Number of total responses: 8
- ii) Uses consulted on: We asked if there were any specific suggestions/recommendations on how NCCA could spend the funds to address any of the academic needs, social-emotional needs, mental health needs, at-risk populations, special education services, English language learner supports, and other. We also asked if there were any Covid prevention and mitigation strategies they would like to see implemented with the funds. Staff wellness, professional development, experiential learning opportunities and student supplies are continuously consulted on.
- iii) Description of feedback received: Better air flow in classroom, more field trips, more hands on programs, more windows, mental health counselor for students and staff, growth mindset speakers, help students develop a plan beyond high school, snacks for kids, CTE coordination

Please indicate how consultation was:

- 2) Inclusive: All staff members are given a survey at mandatory staff orientation
- 3) Widely advertised and available: Survey is available on our website and extra copies are placed in the SAU office.
- 4) Ongoing: When and if we have any new hires, they will fill out this survey as well. The survey is also posted on our website for anyone to submit new recommendations on the use of funds as well as Esser funds are included as a discussion topic at our School Board Meetings. Esser funds are
- h. Community-based organizations, including partnerships to promote access to before and after-school programming (please choose one):

Somewhat - Description Required

1) Description:

No surveys were specifically handed out to community based organizations however we held a public meeting and the survey is always available on our website

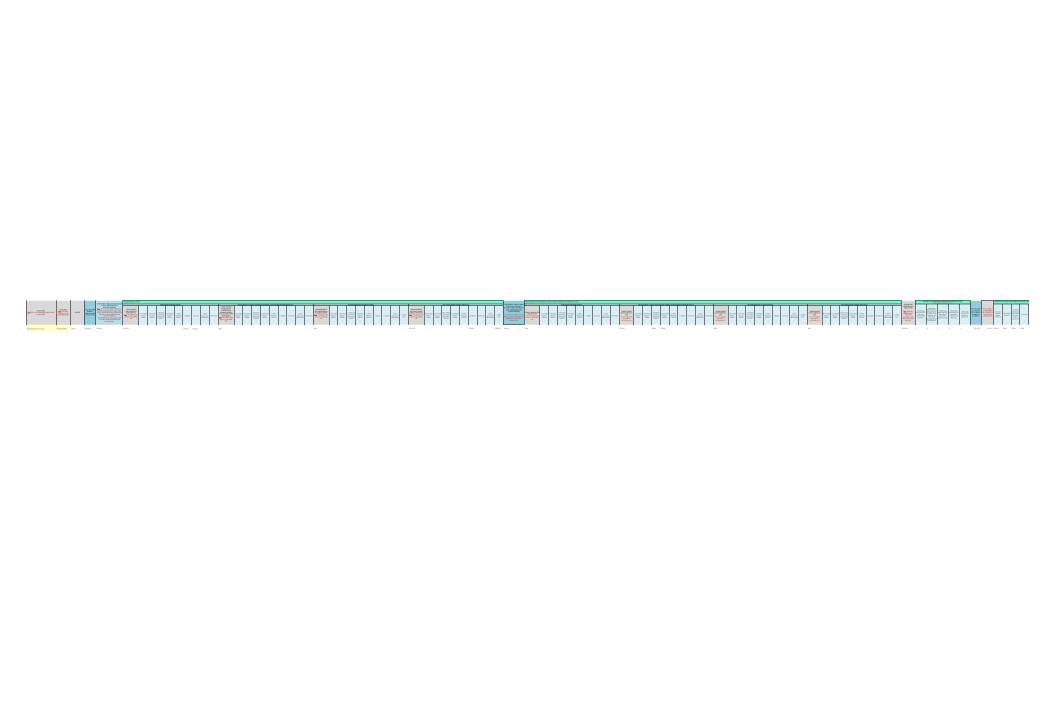
- i) Number of total responses: there were zero responses
- ii) Uses consulted on: N/A
- iii) Description of feedback received: N/A

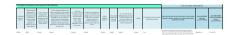
Please indicate how consultation was:

- 2) Inclusive: No surveys were specifically handed out to community based organizations however we held a public meeting and the survey is always available on our website
- 3) Widely advertised and available: Survey is always available on our website

 i. Early childhood education providers and families, including partnerships to ensure access to and continuity of care for families with children of different ages, particularly as they transition to school (please check one): 	
No	
Our school is for grades 7-12 so this stakeholder group was not applicable	
i) Number of total responses: N/A	
ii) Uses consulted on: N/A	
iii) Description of feedback received: N/A	
Please indicate how consultation was:	
2) Inclusive: N/A	
3) Widely advertised and available: N/A	
4) Ongoing: N/A	
7) Ongoing. IVA	

4) Ongoing: Survey is always available on our website





X. Authorization

*Please print and sign this page. Return a signed version with your completed packet to:

ESSER@doe.nh.gov

Approver Signature - Superintendent / Head of School

Lisa Lavoie
Lisa Lavoic
Printed Name - Superintendent / Head of School

Appendix A: ARPA Statutory Excerpt

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- (e) USES OF FUNDS.—A local educational agency that receives funds under this section—
- (1) shall reserve not less than 20 percent of such funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)(B)(xi)), students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care; and
 - (2) shall use the remaining funds for any of the following:
 - (A) Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.
 - (B) Any activity authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
 - (C) Any activity authorized by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.
 - (D) Any activity authorized by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.
 - (E) Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
 - (F) Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.
 - (G) Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.
 - (H) Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
 - (I) Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.
 - (J) Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.
 - (K) Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and children with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.
 - (L) Providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools.
 - (M) Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.
 - (N) Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, of the local educational agency, including by—
 - (i) administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students' academic progress and assist educators in meeting students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction;
 - (ii) implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students;
 - (iii) providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and
 - (iv) tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.
 - (O) School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.
 - (P) Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air
 - conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.
 - (Q) Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.
 - (R) Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency.

Appendix B. Interim Final Requirements of ARP ESSER Excerpt

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(2) LEA ARP ESSER Plan.

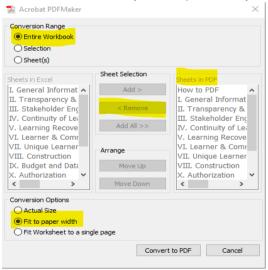
- (a) Each LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds must submit to the SEA, in such manner and within a reasonable timeline as determined by the SEA, a plan that contains any information reasonably required by the SEA. The plan, and any revisions to the plan submitted consistent with procedures established by the SEA, must describe—
 (i) The extent to which and how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning:
- (ii) How the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs;
- (iii) How the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e) of the ARP Act; and
- (iv) How the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.
- (b) In developing its ARP ESSER plan, an LEA must—
- (i) Engage in meaningful consultation—
- (A) With stakeholders, including: Students; families; school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions; and
- (B) 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 in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students; and
- (ii) Provide the public the opportunity to provide input and take such input into account.
- (c) An LEA's ARP ESSER plan must be-
- (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
- (ii) To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent;
- (iii) Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent; and
- (iv) Be made publicly available on the LEA's website.



2) Select "Save as Adobe PDF":

Info
New
Open
Save
Save As

3) Select "Entire Workbook" and "Fit to paper width." Locate the "IV. Budget and Data Reporting" tab from the list beneath "Sheets in PDF." Select "Remove." The reason is because this spreadsheet is so large, that the information will not easily transpose. The V. Authorization tab will need to be printed manually from Excel. The print range within the Excel worbook has been established for all tabs outlined.



- 3) Items due to the NHDOE by 01/13/2023:
- A. NH ARP ESSSER LEA Fund Use Excel Workbook
- i Print the "V. Authorization" tab from Excel file
- i Manually print and sign the "V. Authorization" tab from Excel file
- B. NH ARP ESSSER LEA Fund Use PDF Version
- C. Return each item listed above in one email message to ESSER@doe.nh.gov (3 separate attachments)