

COVID-19 Federal Emergency Funding Overview

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Major COVID-19 Federal Relief Bills

- **CARES** (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act)- March 27, 2020
 - Includes ESSER, GEER, CRF
- **CRRSA** (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act)- December 27, 2020
 - Includes ESSER II, GEER II and GEER EANS, extension of CRF, and Child Nutrition Emergency Assistance and P-EBT administration grants
- **ARPA** (American Rescue Plan Act)- March 11, 2021
 - Includes ESSER III, GEER EAN II, IDEA supplement

CARES Act Family Tree

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)

- US Department of Education
- Funds directly to LEAs and AOE
- \$28 million to LEAs
- \$3 million to SEA
- Broad range of uses
- Goes through 9/30/22

Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER)

- US Department of Education
- Funds to Governor's Office with AOE as administrator
- \$4.48 million to CTE centers
- Broad range of uses
- Goes through 9/30/22

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

- US Department of Treasury
- \$103 million allocated by Vermont State Legislature to education entities through Acts 120 and 154
- 5 grants administered by AOE
- Limited range of uses
- Originally through 12/30/20, extended through 12/31/21
- \$15 million in unused funds

CRRSA Family Tree

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II

- US Department of Education
- Funds directly to LEAs and AOE
- \$114 million to LEAs
- \$13 million to SEA
- Same broad range of uses as ESSER I
- Emphasis on learning loss
- Goes through 9/30/23

Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER)

GEER II

- US Department of Education
- Funds to Governor's Office with AOE as administrator
- \$1.9 million
- Broad range of uses
- Goes through 9/30/23

GEER Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS)

- US Department of Education
- Funds to Governor's Office with AOE as administrator
- \$4.8 million to nonpublic schools
- Goes through 9/30/23

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

- Deadline for use of funds extended through December 20, 2021
- AOE proposes to use the \$15 million in unused funds to continue the Indoor Air Quality grant through 2021

ARPA Family Tree

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III

- US Department of Education
- Funds directly to LEAs and AOE
- \$156 million to LEAs
- \$28 million to SEA
- Broad range of uses, but with specific mandates for how some funds must be used
- Goes through 9/30/23

GEER Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS)

- US Department of Education
- Funds to Governor's Office with AOE as administrator
- \$4.48 million to CTE centers
- Broad range of uses
- Goes through 9/30/22

Updates on AOE COVID-19 Funding Work

- 3/20/21- ESSER I applications closed and all but 11 (in review) have grant awards, totaling \$26,554,399
- 3/22/21-
 - ESSER II application released
 - Office Hours/technical assistance sessions for ESSER II are planned as part of the Recovery Plan process in April and May
 - ESSER II guidance
 - ARPA overview memo
 - Federal Funding Planning Guidance
- 3/23/21-GEER EANS application released for independent schools
 - Office Hours sessions scheduled for 3/30 and 4/12
- 3/23/21- ESSER III Allocations released to the field for planning

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) I, II and III

ESSER Family Tree

- Funded through US Department of Education: CARES, CRRSA, ARPA
- Allocation to LEAs based on Title I formulas (not part of Title I program)
- NOT a competitive grant
- Broad range of allowable costs as determined by federal statute → AOE cannot tell LEAs how to spend their funds, only offer guidance and oversight

ESSER I

- Part of CARES Act passed 3/27/20
- \$28 million to LEAs
- \$3.1 million to SEA
- Equitable Services to Independent Schools
- Broad range of uses
- Goes through 9/30/22

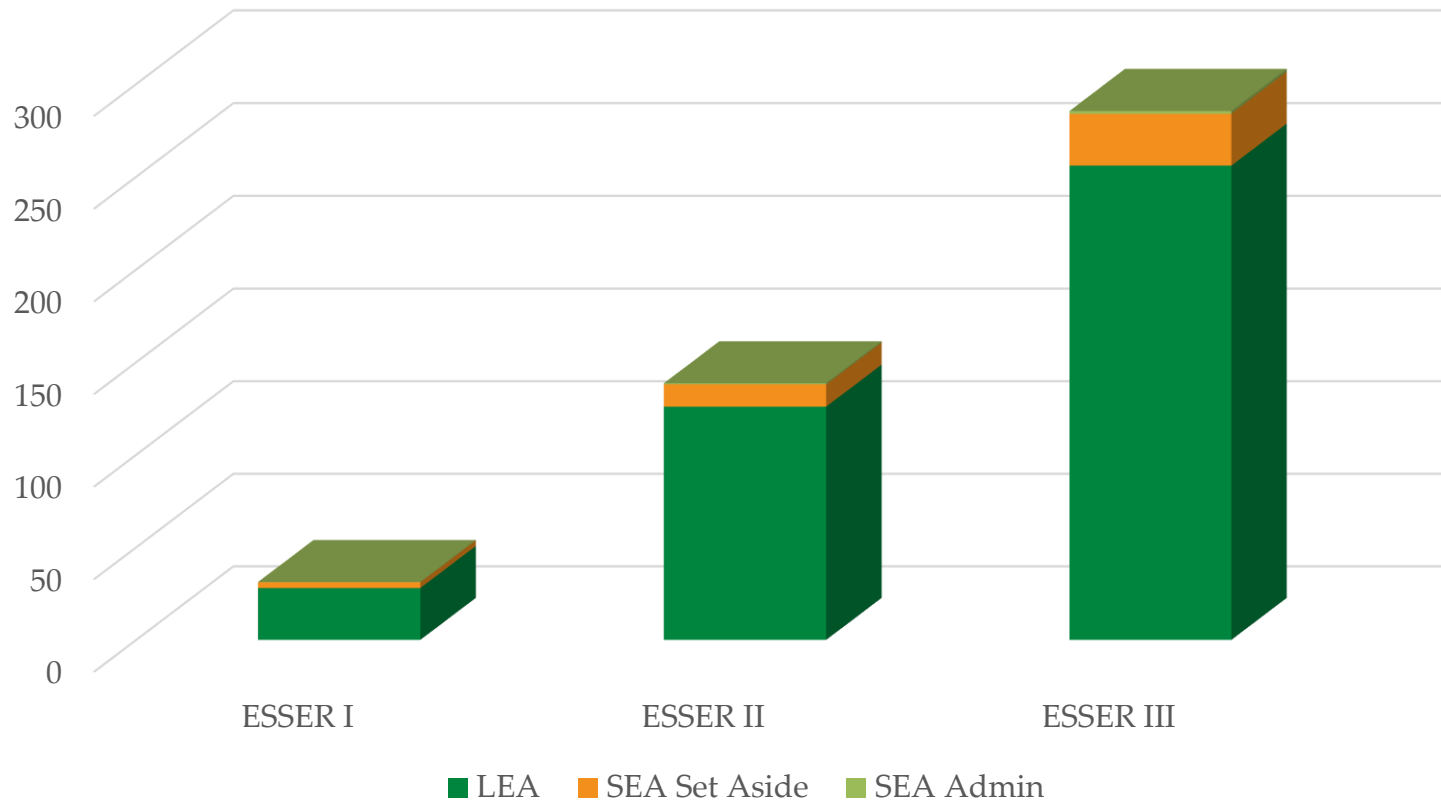
ESSER II

- Part of CRRSA passed 12/27/20
- \$114 million to LEAs
- \$12.6 million to SEA
- No Equitable Services
- Broad range of uses
- Application opens in late March 2021
- Funding Support for Recovery Plan
- Goes through 9/30/23

ESSER III

- Part of ARPA passed 3/11/21
- \$256 million to LEAs
- \$28 million to SEA
- No Equitable Services
- Broad range of uses
- Comes with specific mandates for use of funds
- Goes through 9/30/23

ESSER I, II and III



	LEA	SEA Set Aside	SEA Admin
ESSER I	\$28,033,524	\$3,114,836	\$155,741
ESSER II	\$126,973,363	\$12,062,469	\$634,867
ESSER III	\$256,647,724	\$28,516,414	\$1,425,821
Totals	\$411,654,611	\$43,693,719	\$2,216,429

ESSER I (CARES Act)

- Application released July 2020
- As of 3/22/21
 - 47 LEAs have approved grant awards
 - 7 in review process
 - Total of \$26,554,399 awarded
 - \$1,655,276 reimbursements made to LEAs
- LEAs had until March 20, 2021 to submit their applications to AOE → unawarded funds will be returned to federal government on April 29, 2021
- LEAs have until September 30, 2022 to obligate these funds and can make amendments to adapt to new or changing needs

ESSER II (CRRSA)

- Application released 3/22
- ESSER II funds must be tracked separately from ESSER
- Period of Performance: pre-award costs back to March 13, 2020-September 30, **2023** (additional year past ESSER)
 - All funds must be obligated in an approved grant award by 1/5/2022
- No Equitable Services requirement
- Maintenance of Effort requirement “based on the **proportional share** of the State’s support for elementary and secondary education and higher education relative to the State’s overall spending averaged over FYs 2017, 2018, and 2019.”
- Same Allowable Costs as ESSER: specific emphasis on measuring and addressing learning loss
- Reporting- Required report at 6 months after award explaining how state is using funds to measure and address learning loss for student populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19

ESSER III (ARPA)

- Total for Vermont: \$285,164,208
 - LEAs- \$ 256,647,724
 - SEA set aside- \$28,516,484 (of which a maximum of \$1,426,000 may be used for administration)
- Same allocation formula and uses as ESSER I and II.
- No Equitable Services (additional funding for GEER Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (GEER EANS) program)
- Period of performance from 3/13/20-9/30/23
- Initial award notification received on 3/22, state must submit plan/application to receive remaining funds → state application expected in one month

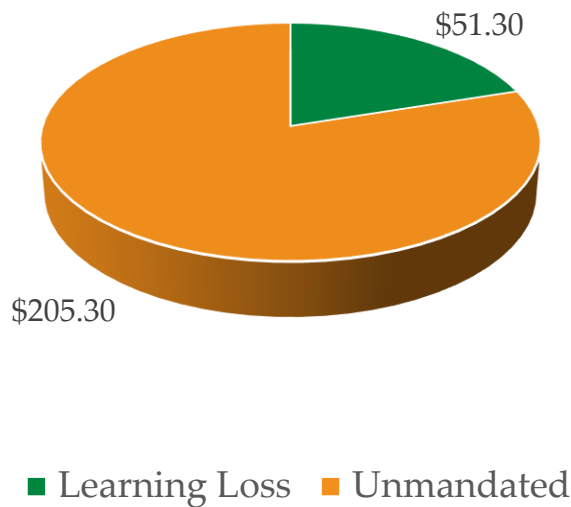
ESSER III: Spending Mandates

Specific restrictions on use of funds to address student learning loss

- LEAs (Total Allocation- \$256,647,724 million)
 - 20% (or \$51,329,544) set aside by LEAs for “activities to address learning loss through evidence-based interventions such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs, or extended school year programs.”
- SEA Set Aside (Total Allocation- \$28,516,484)
 - \$14.28 million set aside by SEAs to carry out through grants or contracts “activities to address learning loss through evidence-based interventions such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs, or extended school year programs.”
 - \$2.8 million to carry out, directly or through grants or contracts, the implementation of evidence-based summer enrichment activities.
 - \$2.8 million to carry out, directly or through grants or contracts, the implementation of evidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs.

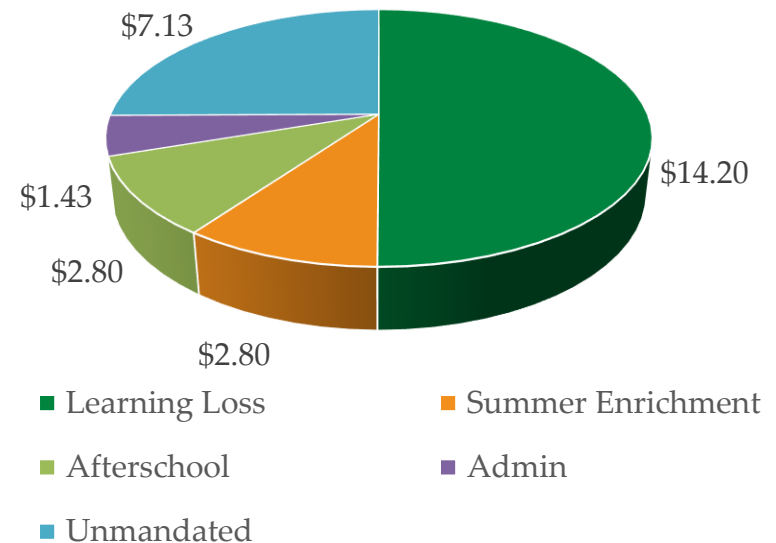
ESSER III Spending Mandates

LEA Spending Mandates



	LEAs
Learning Loss	\$51,329,544
Unmandated	\$205,,318,179

SEA Set Aside Spending Mandates



	ESSER III SEA Set Aside
Learning Loss	\$14,258,000
Summer Enrichment	\$2,852,000
Afterschool	\$2,852,000
Admin	\$1,426,000
Unmandated	\$7,129,000

ESSER AOE Set-aside Prioritization

“With funds not otherwise allocated under subsection (c), a State may reserve not more than one-half of 1 percent for administrative costs and the remainder for emergency needs as determined by **the state educational agency** to address issues responding to coronavirus...” - CRRSA (Section 313(e))

Guiding Principles

- These are one-time funds and should be used in a strategic manner.
- The funds should be focused on education recovery.
- The recovery work in education will take time – these funds extend out into 2023 accordingly.

Areas for Strategic Recovery Investment

- Improve school facilities, including indoor air quality and other health and safety issues.
- Support integrated service delivery models in all regions.
- Address learning loss through expanding capacity for remote learning.

ESSER I SEA Set Aside: Budgeted

- Total SEA set aside \$3,114,836 (max of \$155,741 available for administration of program)
- For statewide activities to support the field in their COVID response
- Available through September 30, 2022

Project Name	High-Level Description	Total Cost from FY20-FY22
Edmodo (build out)	Professional Network and K-5 LMS	\$334,000
Salesforce (CRM)	CRM tool to respond to queries from the public and the field related to COVID-19 response	148,000
Salesforce (Symptom Tracker)	Framework for COVID-19 related symptom checking and tracking for schools	\$407,350
Social/Emotional Learning platform	Development and support of a website containing curated materials on best practice for educators to ensure students' social, emotional, and mental health well-being.	\$400,000
Total Already Budgeted		\$1,155,350
Edmodo (Zoom)	Enhanced feature to allow Zoom in Edmodo sessions	\$24,000
Salesforce Helpdesk	Enhanced public-facing platform	\$200,000
Total in Development		\$225,000
Total Costs		Total budgeted as of 3/12/21: \$1,514,350
Funds still available		\$1,600,486

ESSER II SEA Set Aside: Budgeted

- Total SEA set aside \$12,062,469 (+ \$634,867 max admin)
- For statewide activities to support the field in their COVID response
- Available through September 30, 2023

Project name	High-Level Description	Total Cost
Burlington High School Macy's retrofit	Support the retrofitting of the old Macy's building to accommodate Burlington High School students who are unable to return to in-person schooling due to contamination of the Burlington High School site.	\$3,500,000
Total Costs		Total Budgeted as of 3/12/21 \$3,500,000