

FY 23 Budget Adjustment Act: ESSER Language

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What is the request?

New language added to Act 185 (the FY 23 Budget Bill) to give the AOE the ability to reconcile programs appropriated by the Legislature since 2021 and repurpose them to other or new programs that align with the priorities already identified by the Legislature.

Proposed Language

Sec. **XX** 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.501.1 is added to read: Sec. E.501.1 EDUCATION RECOVERY AND REVITALIZATION

(a) The Agency of Education may adjust any of the allocations concerning ESSER II and ARP ESSER state set aside funds made in Acts 9, 67, 72, and 74 of 2021 and Acts 28, 83, 112, 166 and 185 of 2022 during the final reconciliation process to ensure the entirety of the federal awards are expended. The Agency of Education shall provide a final reconciliation report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on the reallocation of these funds in October 2023 and October 2024.

Proposed Language (continued)

EXPLANATION: Through a series of legislative actions, all ESSER II and ARP ESSER state set aside funds have been fully allocated. As grant programs, contracts and administrative costs are reconciled, the Agency of Education requires additional flexibility to ensure that all funds can be expended by the end of the funding periods.

Proposed Language (continued)

- Requires transparent reporting by AOE to JFC in October 2023 and 2024.
- Gives the AOE the ability to measure impact and invest in what is working.
- Prevents reversion of funds to federal government.
- Early estimates of \$3 million (this is dependent on multiple contracts that have not been finalized)

Status Update on ESSER II and ARP ESSER Set Aside Initiatives (January 30, 2023)

8 live grant programs. Two of those are through Vermont Afterschool using ESSER II funds (end 9/30/2023).

12 live or planned contracts. All using ARP ESSER funds (end 9/30/2024).

All ESSER II funds are fully budgeted.

All but \$365,000 in ARP ESSER funds are fully budgeted.

Major Set Aside Initiatives in 2023-2024

Includes both ESSER II and ARP ESSER funds

Expanding access to high quality educational experiences

Investing in data-driven systems that will support evidence-based decision making to improve student outcomes

Direct supports for students and educators to address mental health and wellness

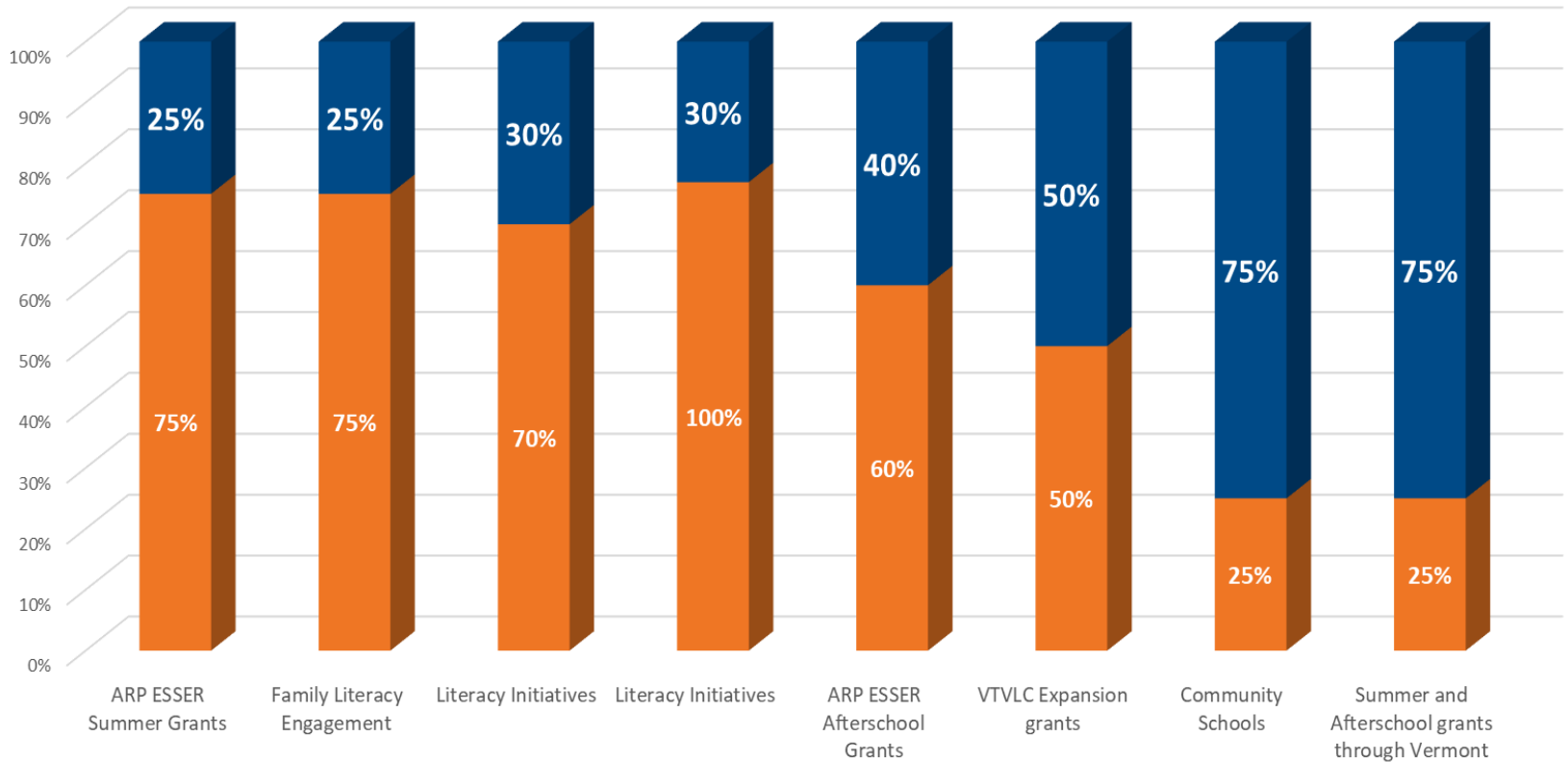
Investing in safe and healthy schools

Category	Total Amount (rounded)
Expanding Access	\$24,000,000
Data Driven Systems	\$2,876,000
Mental Health and Wellness	\$4,395,000
Safe and Healthy Schools	\$4,200,000

Summary of Major Initiatives Investments

Initiative	Allocation / Budgeted	Amount Awarded/Expended
Community Schools	\$3,399,000.00	\$3,399,000.00
Summer and Afterschool grants through Vermont Afterschool	\$8,434,772.00	\$7,261,886.00
ARP ESSER Afterschool Grants	\$2,852,234.00	\$2,387,312.00
ARP ESSER Summer Grants	\$2,852,234.00	\$0.00
Family Literacy Engagement	\$325,000.00	\$0.00
VTVLC Expansion grants	\$1,900,000.00	\$1,900,000.00
Literacy Initiatives	\$3,534,000.00	\$3,150,000.00

Expanding Access



Expanding Access Initiatives Progress

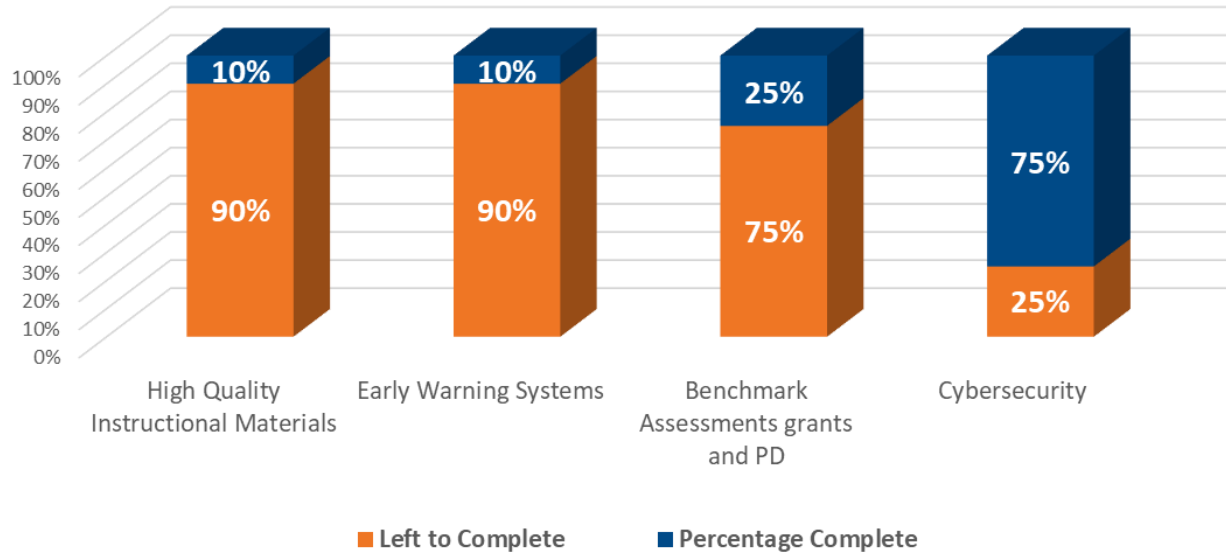
Expanding Access Initiatives Progress

Initiative	Status	Left to complete	Percentage complete
ARP ESSER Summer Grants	Applications in process	75%	25%
Family Literacy Engagement	RFP in progress	75%	25%
Literacy Initiatives	Contract approval, AOE position hired	70%	30%
Literacy Initiatives	Contract approval, AOE position hired	100%	30%
ARP ESSER Afterschool Grants	Round II applications in process	60%	40%
VTVLC Expansion grants	Awarded	50%	50%
Community Schools	Awarded	25%	75%
Summer and Afterschool grants through Vermont Afterschool	Awarded	25%	75%

Initiative	Allocation/Budgeted	Amount Awarded/Expended
Cybersecurity	\$250,000	\$250,000
Benchmark Assessments grants and PD	\$1,000,000	\$0
High Quality Instructional Materials	\$1,276,000	\$0
Early Warning Systems	\$350,000	\$0

Data-driven Systems

Data-Driven Systems Initiatives Progress

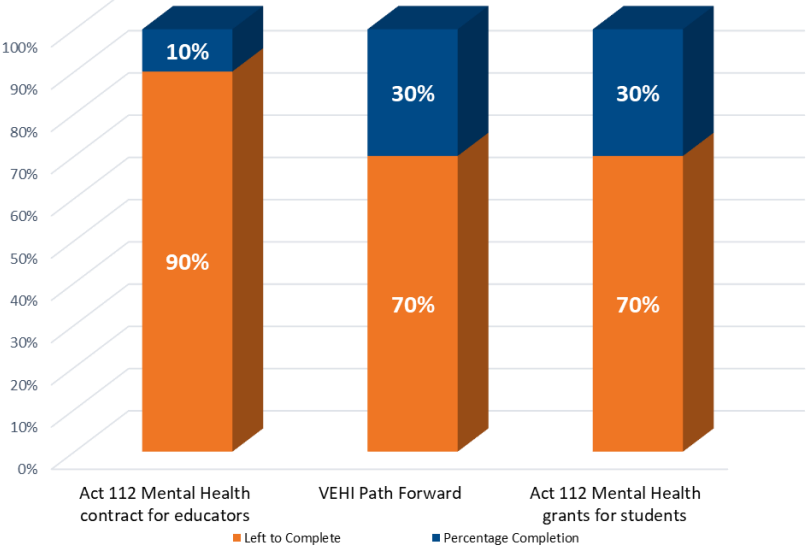


Initiative	Status	Left to Complete	Percentage Complete
High Quality Instructional Materials	RFP in progress	90%	10%
Early Warning Systems	RFP in progress	90%	10%
Benchmark Assessments grants and PD	Applications and RFP in progress	75%	25%
Cybersecurity	Awarded	25%	75%

Initiative	Allocation/Budgeted	Amount Awarded/Expended
VEHI Path Forward	\$1,395,000	\$1,395,000
Act 112 Mental Health grants for students	\$2,500,000	\$0
Act 112 Mental Health contract for educators	\$500,000	\$0

Mental Health and Wellness

MEH and Wellness Initiatives Progress

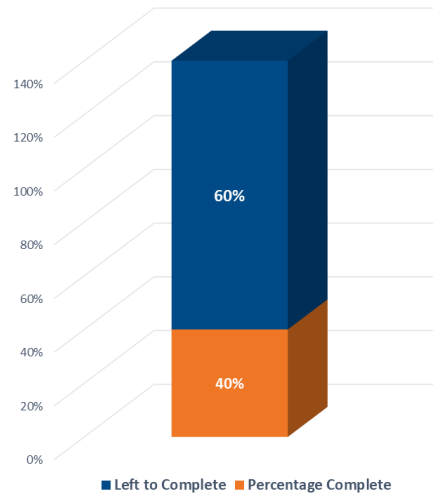


Initiative	Status	Left to Complete	Percentage Complete
Act 112 Mental Health contract for educators	RFP in progress	90%	10%
VEHI Path Forward	Awarded	70%	30%
Act 112 Mental Health grants for students	Awarded	70%	30%

Initiative	Allocation/Budgeted	Amount Awarded/Expended	Status	% complete
Act 72 Facilities Programs	4,127,500	2,420,000	Facilities Inventory and Assessments in progress	40%

Safe and Healthy Schools

Safe and Healthy Schools Initiatives Progress



Status	Left to Complete	Percentage Complete
Facilities Inventory and Assessments in progress	60%	40%



Questions