

Senate Education Committee Colorado Department of Education

April 21, 2021

Coordinating Expanded Learning Opportunities



PURPOSE

To share information with the Senate Education Committee to enable coordinated supports for expanded learning opportunities for Colorado students.

AGENDA

- Colorado's Education Context
- Federal Funding Overview
- Next Steps

COLORADO'S EDUCATION CONTEXT



CDE and CEI conducted a needs inventory in October

- At that time, the highest rated student priorities were K-3 reading loss and middle and high school student mental health
- The highest rated priorities for teachers were teacher mental health, teacher professional development and teacher and leader turnover

Six months later we know that things have evolved

- All of our districts are offering in-person or hybrid learning for students
- A significant proportion of families have chosen to remain in remote learning environments

We will know more about learning impacts in the coming months

COVID-19 Learning Impact Context



- 1 “Recovery” from learning opportunity loss will not be a quick fix. It will take long-term planning and efforts beyond summer 2021 activities.
- 2 For some students, the impacts of the pandemic will take months or years to address.
- 3 Not all students went into the pandemic at grade level; historic opportunity and achievement gaps.
- 4 Many rural districts have been conducting in-person learning all year, although still disrupted with quarantines.
- 5 There are some workforce issues to consider in both the near term and long term.
- 6 We expect to respond to the impacts on student learning for the coming years. ESSER III funding can be used through September 2024.

- 1 Districts providing supplemental tutoring and learning time for students.
- 2 Districts budgeting and planning for summer school.
- 3 COVID-19 Impacts Toolkit will be available for districts with resources.
- 4 The RFP for the 21st Century Learning Center grant program is open. This federal funding supports districts and district/school partnerships for expanded learning time, including this summer and beyond. Additional funding is available this year.
- 5 Colorado State Library providing libraries with resources for summer learning.
- 6 The Colorado Education Initiative (CEI) is coordinating partners to encourage contribution to summer 2021 opportunities.
- 7 Partners are working on expanding AmeriCorps to support some of the workforce needs.

OVERVIEW OF FEDERAL FUNDING

Total ESSER Funding



	ESSER I (CARES Act) March 2020	ESSER II (CRRS Act) December 2020	ESSER III (ARP Act) March 2021
Total State Allocation	\$120,993,782	\$519,324,311	\$1,166,328,632
Allocation to LEAs	\$108,894,404 \$120.81 per pupil 90% of total funding Title I formula	\$467,391,880 \$518.70 per pupil 90% of total funding Title I formula	\$1,049,695,769 \$1,164.93 per pupil 90% of total funding Title I formula
State Reserve	\$12,099,378 10% of total funding	\$51,932,431 10% of total funding	\$116,632,863 10% of total funding
Funding Period	Through Sept. 30, 2022	Through Sept. 30, 2023	Through Sept. 30, 2024

Additional Federal Money for Education

Governor's
Emergency
Education
Relief
(~\$44M)



Included in
the first
stimulus bill

Coronavirus
Relief Funds
for Education
(~\$550M)



Included in
the first
stimulus bill

Emergency
Assistance for
Non-Public
Schools
(~\$67M)



Funding available
for non-public
schools in the
second and third
stimulus bill

Additional Federal Money for Education

Individuals with
Disabilities
Education Act
Funding
(\$41.5M)



Included in
the third
stimulus bill

Library Services
and Technology
Funds
(\$3.4M)



Included in
the third
stimulus bill

Funds to Support
Homeless
Children & Youth
(TBD \$)



Included in
the third
stimulus bill

Emergency
Costs for Child
Nutrition
Program
(TBD \$)



Included in
the separate
stimulus bill

ESSER Funding Directly to Districts



ESSER I:
~\$109M
90% Allocation



- Applications due December 31, 2020
- Funds must be spent by September 30, 2022

ESSER II:
~\$467M
90% Allocation



- Applications due September 30, 2021
- Funds must be spent by September 30, 2023

ESSER III:
~\$1B
90% Allocation



- Initial applications due May 23, 2021
- Final application due March 24, 2022
- Funds must be spent by September 30, 2024

Funds distributed to districts based upon Title I formula

At least 20% of ESSER III funding must be used to address the learning impacts of COVID-19 through interventions, summer programming, and after-school opportunities

Allowable Uses of District ESSER Funding

ESSER I	ESSER II	ESSER III
<p style="text-align: center;">Addressing the impact of COVID-19 on schools, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordination with public health departments ● Purchasing educational technology ● Planning for long term closures ● Training and supplies for sanitation ● Mental health support ● Summer school and afterschool programs ● Funds for principals to address local needs ● Other activities to continue school operations and employment of existing staff 	<p style="text-align: center;">Same as ESSER I with emphasis on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Addressing learning loss ● School facility repairs and improvements ● Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of schools 	<p style="text-align: center;">Same as ESSER I with a requirement to direct at least 20% of funding to address the learning impacts of COVID-19 through interventions</p>

All ESSER funds may be used for activities allowable under ESEA, IDEA, the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Perkins CTE Act, or the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

ESSER I: (\$11.5 million)

Funding
gap support
(~3.2M)

- Funding to districts that received little or no funding in 90% distribution
- Support for special education
- Funding to BOCES schools and facility schools
- Support to districts for Native American students and Tribes

Provide connectivity
to broadband for
districts, BOCES
and Tribes
(~ \$1.3M)

Expanded Learning
Opportunities
(~ \$2M)

Statewide Capacity
Building
(~\$5M)

- Funding for workforce recruitment, including additional teachers and substitutes
- Additional year of funding for online courses that districts can use to supplement learning

ESSER II: (\$52 million)

Funding gap support (~\$16.8M)



- Funding to districts that received little or no funding in 90% distribution
- Funding to Administrative Units for special education
- Funding to BOCES
- Support to districts for Native American students and Tribes

Expanded Learning Opportunities (~\$32M)



- Funding to districts for expanded learning opportunities (i.e., tutoring, extended day, extended year, summer school, boot camps)
- Support for district/community partnerships for expanded learning time (21st Century Learning Centers)

Statewide Capacity Building (~\$650K)



- Funding for workforce recruitment, including additional teachers and substitutes

ESSER III SEA State Reserve Allocation Requirements

Two-thirds of ESSER III funding has been released to states with the remaining one-third to be released once states submit a plan

States are awaiting more guidance from the U.S. Department of Education regarding plan requirements

Unlike ESSER I and II, there are requirements for uses of ESSER III state custodial funds:

- \$58M (5%) for evidence-based interventions for impacts for COVID-19
- \$11.6M (1%) for summer programming
- \$11.6M (1%) for after school programming

CDE will be soliciting widespread input on needs and best uses for these funds

ESSER State Reserve Decision Making Process

- 1 We recognize the once in a generation opportunity to support our education system with these funds.
- 2 We want to ensure we stop, think big and creatively, gather input, and use this funding to truly make a difference for our students in Colorado.
- 3 Our top priority is to close the opportunity and achievement gaps that have been exacerbated by the pandemic.
- 4 We are planning processes for gathering diverse input, including listening sessions and design sessions.

NEXT STEPS



ESSER State Reserve Expanded Learning Opportunity Funding

- Eligibility -- pre-qualify districts, if possible
- Co-designed with community:
 - Summer school
 - Extended day
 - Jump start programs
 - Fifth day programs (for districts on a 4-day week)
 - Tutoring
 - Other?
- Application
- Reporting and evaluation

Input and Decisions on Uses for Additional ESSER State Funding

Potential State Initiatives



DISCUSSION