

2021-24 American Rescue Plan

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

Local Educational Agency ARP ESSER Plan,

Application and Assurances

**[LEA and Number]**

**Purpose**

Florida must subgrant not less than 90 percent of its total ARP ESSER allocation to local educational agencies (LEAs) (including charter schools that are LEAs) to help meet a wide range of needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic, including reopening schools safely, sustaining their safe operation, and addressing students’ social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs resulting from the pandemic. The State must allocate these funds to LEAs on the basis of their respective shares of funds received under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) in fiscal year (FY) 2020.

The purpose of this document is to guide districts to plan for the continued implementation of reopening and recovery through the utilization of the 2021-24 ARP ESSER and to assure federal requirements are met. Florida utilized the 2020-21 District Reopening Plan and the Spring 2021 Education Plan to respond to and mitigate the impact of the emergency and to promote the health, safety, and welfare of persons connected with Florida’s educational system.

The Department recognizes that the safe return to in-person instruction must be accompanied by a focus on meeting students’ academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs, and by addressing the opportunity gaps that existed before – and were exacerbated by – the pandemic. In this document, districts will describe how they will support the development of high-quality plans for the use of ARP ESSER funds to achieve these objectives for the following student groups: students from low-income families, from each racial or ethnic background, by gender, English Language Learners, students with disabilities, experiencing homelessness, in foster care, migratory students and other student groups.

**Directions**

Districts shall submit its ARP ESSER application to the Office of Grants Management via ShareFile **on or before November 12, 2021**. ShareFile access has been established for the ARP ESSER Lump Sum program for each LEA. The complete application shall include:

* LEA ARP ESSER Plan, Application and Assurances utilizing this template;
* DOE 100A Project Application Form; and
* DOE 101 Budget Narrative Form.

Each LEA developed and made publicly available on the LEA’s website a plan for the safe return of in-person learning in the Fall of 2020. This was before the enactment of the ARP Act. This plan must be updated to address the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195. The requirements of the Interim Final Rule are summarized in Appendix A. Each LEA shall seek public comment on the updated plan and take such comments into account prior to the submission of the final plan to the Department. Updated plans must comply with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency action, or any agency regulation or rule. No later than 60 days from receipt of its DOE 200, Project Award Notice, each LEA shall email its updated final plan to recoveryplan@fldoe.org. The subject line of the email must include district name and Plan for the Safe Return of In-person Instruction. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

**Part I: Implementation Plan**

**The LEA will submit an implementation plan, outlining planned activities for each of the following uses of funds under section 2001(e) of the ARP Act. The description must be adequate to ascertain that the proposed use of funds is necessary to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students.**

**Activities should be numbered consecutively. If the LEA does not plan any activities for one or more authorized uses, please indicate that there are no planned activities. School district LEAs shall include the activities identified for charter schools within the LEA, aggregated at the district/LEA level.**

**Activity 1**: **Addressing Learning Loss (at least 20% of total allocation).** Of the total amount allocated to an LEA, the LEA must reserve at least 20 percent of 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 those interventions respond to students’ social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups (each major racial and ethnic group, children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care).

Taylor County School District (TCSD)will reserve, at minimum 20% of the total ARP Relief Funds to address learning loss through Spring after school programs and summer schools during the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and the 2023-2024 summers. These funds will be used to provide after school programs based on relevant progress monitoring data for intervention as well as credit recovery opportunities for secondary students. These activities are broken down as follows:

Activity 1.1 Providing after-school instruction to address learning loss

* Hire 5 coordinators to plan, track, monitor and report student progress for after-school programs in the Spring of 2022, 2023 and 2024.Each coordinator will receive 60 hours @$50 per hour = $15,000 x 3years plus benefits.
* Hire 40 teachers to provide 1.5 hours of after-school instruction for a period of 30 days @$50 per hour = $90,000 x 3 years plus benefits
* Hire 14 classroom aides to assist with instruction and related services to provide 1.5 hours of after-school instruction for a period of 30 days @$20 per hour = $12,600 x 3 years plus benefits
* Hire 11 bus drivers for 1.5 hours of after-school instruction transportation for a period of 30 days @$20 per hour = $9,900 x 3 years plus benefits
* Fuel costs to provide transportation = $22,200 x 3 years

Activity 1.2 Providing Summer School Instruction to address learning loss

* Hire 5 coordinators to plan, track, monitor and report student progress for summer school programs in the Spring of 2022, 2023 and 2024.Each coordinator will receive 150 hours @$50 per hour = $37,5000 x 3 years plus benefits.
* Hire 40 teachers to provide 105 hours of summer school instruction @$50 per hour = $210,000 x 3 years plus benefits
* Hire 14 classroom aides to assist with instruction and related services to provide 105 hours of summer school instruction @$20 per hour = $29,400x 3 years plus benefits
* Hire 11 bus drivers for 4 hours of summer school instruction transportation per day @$20 per hour = $17,600 x 3 years plus benefits
* Fuel costs to provide transportation for 3 years=$35,400

Activity 1.3 Purchase online 24/7 tutoring support for struggling students utilizing FEV tutors $20,000

Activity 1.4 Provide supplemental Reading and Mathematics Interventions Programs to identified students based on identified needs-estimated at $750,000

**Activity 2** (**A**) **Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.**

Contracted services for new principal trainings $45 per hour x 220 hours funded at 50%

**Activity 2** (B) **Any activity authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.**

Salary-Multi-Tiered System of Supports Coordinators(2) in order to provide support and direct services, including technical assistance, personnel preparation, and professional development and training: $107,782 plus benefits x 1 year

**Activity 2** (C) **Any activity authorized by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.**

None at this time.

**Activity 2** (D) **Any activity authorized by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.**

Contracted services to support CTE Pathway for Future Educators of America (FEA) to provide experiences that inspire students to consider a career in education. $25,000

Supplies to begin development of a Professional Development Certification Program (PDCP) to provide instruction for members of its instructional staff who are non-education baccalaureate or higher degree holders under Section 1012.56(8), F.S., resulting in qualification for an initial Florida Professional Educator’s Certificate. $25,000

**Activity 2** (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.**

None at this time.

**Activity 2** (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.**

Purchase a special needs bus to transport students from Taylor County to Gretchen Everhart. $150,000

Purchase 4 vans to transport special needs students, provide services, and conduct home visits. $150,000

**Activity 2** (G) **Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.**

None at this time

**Activity 2** (H) **Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.**

None at this time.

**Activity 2** (I) **Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.**

None at this time.

**Activity 2** **(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.**

Purchase CANVAS, Learning Management System (LMS)for district use by all staff and students-$70,000

**Activity 2(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.**

Student laptop refresh to replace older models in order to run new and updated software and connect ability: $350,000

Desktop refresh for student specialty labs: $100,000

Upgrade district wi-fi network system: $500,000

Revamp Office 365 authentication and connectivity servers to provide more robust connectivity from home to school: $30,000

**Activity 2(L) Providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools.**

Provide Mental Health Counselors: $150,000

Purchase Mental Health Coordination services (Care Solace): $48,000

**Activity 2(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.**

All outlined in activity 1

**Activity 2(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.**

1. Purchase 2 years of Exact Path and I-Ready progress monitoring assessments which include individual alignment to individual curricular instructional paths: $200,000
2. Purchase 3 years of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)/ Response to Intervention (RTI) tool, Branching Minds for intervention management: $100,000
3. Parent Engagement Nights: $60,750

Advertisement of parent involvement and community outreach events: $10,000

1. Salary and benefits for 2 truancy officers-one K-5, one 6-12: $106,220 for the 2022-2023 school year
2. Salary and benefits district level technology curriculum coordinator $57,216

**Activity 2(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.**

Flooring replacement to prevent virus transmission and aide in ease of disinfecting and sanitation of surfaces: $300,000

**Activity 2(P) Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and nonmechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.**

Upgrade control systems to improve quality and efficiency of cooling and heating: $166,000 total:

Control system for Taylor County Middle School, MSID 620031:  $48,000

Control System for Big Bend Technical College HVAC MSID 620131: $75,000

Control System for Steinhatchee School MSID 620111: $43,000

Replace outdated chillers to improve ventilation and air conditioning: $525,000 total:

Taylor County Elementary School: Installation of 240 ton chiller MSID 620041: $185,000 ;

Steinhatchee School: Installation of Chiller MSID 620111: $80,000;

Taylor County High School Installation of 300 ton chiller MSID 620161:  $260,000

Installation of cooling towers to improve heating, ventilation and air conditioning: $212,000 total:

Taylor County High School MSID 620161: $212,000

Installation of air handlers with bipolar ionization to help reduce the risk of virus transmission: $1,400,000 total:

Taylor County High School installation of Air handlers with bipolar ionization MSID 620161: $1,030,000

Installation of Air Handler at Steinhatchee School MSID 620111: $90,000

Bipolar ionization of all air handlers districtwide and duct cleaning at TCHS and TCMS: $280,000

**Activity 2(Q) Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent possible and not inconsistent with state law, 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.**

Provide COVID leave to employees: $52,764.45

Purchase and install 360 bus cameras $247,800

**Activity 2(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.**

Provide retention incentive to administrators (including FICA) @ $1,000 each: $109,372.40

Provide retention incentive to teachers (including FICA) @ $1,000 each: $91,662

Provide retention incentive to non-instructional personnel (including FICA) @ $500 each: $504,019

Salary and benefits for additional CARES aides: $234,663

**Activity 2 (S) Administration. LEAs may take reasonable and necessary administrative costs, to include direct and indirect costs. Indirect costs may be taken up to the negotiated, unrestricted indirect cost rate. However, to ensure that the total administrative costs are reasonable, the total direct and indirect costs may not exceed five percent (5%) of the LEA’s total award.**

[Indirect costs 4.61% estimated at $400,000]

**Part II: Ensuring Effectiveness of Interventions**

**Please describe 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 and youth in foster care, and migratory students.** **In your response, please include a description of interventions and strategies that are aligned to the LEA’s data (disaggregated by subgroup), and describe how the LEA will measure the effectiveness of the selected interventions.**

The Taylor County School District conducts, at minimum, progress monitoring three times per year. The final progress monitoring, along with results of the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) is then disaggregated by subgroup. This view of data will allow the district to determine how groups of students are responding to tier one instruction, as well as determine whether those receiving tier 2 and tier 3 supports are responding to applied interventions. In addition, this data will guide initial instructional placement in grade-level courses.

**Part III LEA Plan for Safe Return of In-Person Instruction**

Each LEA developed and made publicly available on the LEA’s website a plan for the safe return of in-person learning in the Fall of 2020. This was before the enactment of the ARP Act. This plan must be updated to address the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195. The Interim Final Rule “does not mandate that an LEA adopt the CDC guidance, but only requires that the LEA describe in its plan the extent to which it has adopted the key prevention and mitigation strategies identified in the guidance.” 88 FR at 21200. Any updated LEA plan must be consistent with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency order, or any agency regulation or rule. Note specifically that LEA policies must comply with section 381.00316, Florida Statutes, and that any policies implemented after August 9, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21 -12, F.A.C., and any policies implemented after September 22, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21-15, F.A.C.

Each LEA must seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account prior to submission of the final plan to the Department within 60 days of the award. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this updated plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

[x] By checking this box, the LEA acknowledges the requirement that each LEA shall update its Plan for Safe Return of In-Person Instruction to reflect the requirements stated above, shall seek public comment on the updated plan and take such comments into account prior to the submission of the final plan to the Department within 60 days of the award. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this updated plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

**Part IV: Assurances**

 **The district must agree to ALL of the assurances by checking the corresponding boxes.**

[x]  **Assurance 1: LEA Periodic Plan Update with Public Comment.**  As required in the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195, the LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months, review and as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account. If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations. Significantly, the Interim Final Rule “does not mandate that an LEA adopt the CDC guidance, but only requires that the LEA describe in its plan the extent to which it has adopted the key prevention and mitigation strategies identified in the guidance.” 88 FR at 21200. Any updated LEA plan must be consistent with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency order, or any agency regulation or rule. Specifically, LEA policies must comply with section 381.00316, Florida Statutes, and any policies implemented after August 9, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21 -12, F.A.C., and any policies implemented after September 22, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21-15, F.A.C.

[x]  **Assurance 2: Continue progress monitoring and interventions.** The district agrees to provide robust progress monitoring and requisite interventions must be extended to all students with tiered support for students who are performing below grade level and are not making adequate progress. Students who are receiving instruction through innovative teaching methods must transition to another teaching method if they fail to make adequate progress. The district agrees to provide monthly progress monitoring reports to parent/guardians for students identified as performing below grade level and/or demonstrating decline on the district’s progress monitoring system.

[x]  **Assurance 3: Allowable Uses of Funds.** The LEA will use funds for activities allowable under section 2001(e) of the CRRSA Act.

[x]  **Assurance 4: Maintenance of Equity.** The LEA will comply with all requirements relating to Maintenance of Equity, in accordance with section 2004(c) of the ARP Act.

[x]  **Assurance 5: Reporting.** The LEA will comply with all reporting requirements, and submit required reports to the Florida Department of Education at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the department may subsequently require.

[x]  **Assurance 6: Audits, Inspections or Examinations.** The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such funds by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals available for interview and examination, upon the request of (i) the Florida Department of Education, the Florida Auditor General; (ii) the Department and/or its Inspector General; or (iii) any other federal or state agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority.

**Acknowledgement**

Local Educational Agency Chief Executive Officer or Authorized Representative

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| **Name and title of person responsible for completion and submission**  |
| Alicia Beshears |
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| **Superintendent signature (or authorized representative)** |
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