

2021-24 American Rescue Plan

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

Local Educational Agency ARP ESSER Plan,

Application and Assurances

**FAMU DRS – 685/0351**

**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).

**To address student learning loss and close the achievement gaps for students K-12, FAMU DRS will purchase Curriculum and Instructional Materials that align to BEST Standards and are evidenced based to provide student interventions, provide the Beyond the Bell Afterschool Tutoring program in cores subjects ( ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies) for students’ interventions and one-to-one instruction and tutoring. DRS will also provide a Summer Enrichment Program for struggling students that did not meet proficiency during the school year.**

 **1. K-5 Curriculum and Programs - $200,000.00 ($100,000.00 per year for two years)
2. 6-12 Curriculum and Programs - $200,000.00 ($100,000.00 per year for two years)

Total: $400,000.00**

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

**FAMU DRS will purchase 70 computers (PC) schoolwide to upgrade faculty and staff connectivity for student curriculum and instruction to address learning loss and student gains in the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school year and beyond. Devices will be purchased at $857.14 each for 70 devices for a total of $60,000.00.**

**FAMU DRS will hire 1 Reading Intervention Specialist to assist with student learning loss for students in K-8 that occurred as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic for a period of 3 years (1 Full-time FTE) @ 60,000.00 per year for a total of $180,000.00.**

**Benefits for FAMU DRS to hire 1 Reading Intervention Specialist to assist with student learning loss for students in K-8 that occurred as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic for a period of 3 years ( 1 Full-time FTE) @ 60,000.00 per year. FICA for Reading Inter @ 6.2% = $11,160.00, Insurance for Reading Coach @ 28.2% = $50,760.00 Unemployment Ins. for Reading Coach @ .3%= $540.00, Worker’s Comp Ins. for Reading Coach @ .3% = $540.00.**

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

**No Planned Activities.**

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

**No Planned Activities.**

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

**No Planned Activities.**

**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.**

**No Planned Activities.**

**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.**

**No Planned Activities.**

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

**No Planned Activities.**

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

**No Planned Activities.**

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

**No Planned Activities.**

**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.**

**No Planned Activities.**

**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.**

**FAMU DRS will purchase an additional 500 student Chromebooks to maintain a one-to-one student device for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school year and beyond. Devices will be purchased at $220.91 each for 500 devices for a total of $110,455.00.**

**FAMU DRS will use funds to purchase a sustainable Learning Management System (LMS) to increase student digital connectivity at school and at home for increased instruction (i.e. homework and project based learning) for $10,978.00.**

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

**Provide mental health services and supports to students K-12 for social emotional needs and
 social emotional learning as result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Contract and hire a mental health
 counselor and related services @ 15 hours per week for $50.00 per hour from September 1,
 – May 31, @ $29,250.00 for two years for a total of $58,500.00**

**Fringe Benefits for mental health counselor/services @ 13% = $3,802.50 for two years for a total of $7605.00**

**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.**

**FAMU DRS will host the Freedom School Reading Program and Initiative during the summer (Summer 2022, Summer 2023 and Summer 2024) to meet 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 to address literacy gaps, increase reading proficiency and provide literacy resources and skills and home and at school, and best practices in the learning environment including social emotional needs, parenting skills through reading. Program cost is 25,000.00 per year for a total of $ 75,000.00 for three years.**

**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.**

**No Planned Activities.**

**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.**

**To address student ratio in each school building to assist in the mitigation of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases, FAMU DRS will purchase a 6-classroom module to allow for social distancing and increased safety precautions in each building K-12. The module will be utilized immediately during the grant period. The building will be utilized mainly by the school’s middle school (6-8) as this is the targeted area for over population in classrooms due to an increase in student enrollment is 6-8. Classroom ratios are currently 1:25, however, due to COVID-19 more space is needed within the shared building as over 20% of the 6th grade class has contracted COVID-19; many in student clusters. As the school anticipates growth during the next school year, more space is needed to also accommodate students with social distancing and health guidelines. Cost: $400,000.00.**

**FAMU DRS will implement a district-wide bussing system to respond to the transportation needs and learning loss need of students during the COVID-19 Pandemic. To combat attendance issues, particularly at the beginning of the school day when learning is most prevalent, FAMU DRS will provide transportation to students to arrive to school on-time and safely. Many FAMU DRS students ride public transportation to school or must “shareride” with relatives outside of their immediate home or friends to school and are often late to school and compromised for safety and health due to the Pandemic. Also to address student ratio during student transport to and from school FAMU DRS request to purchase two school buses at $150,000.00 each to assist in the mitigation of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. The buses will be utilized immediately during the grant period. Total cost: $300,000.00**

**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.**

**No Planned Activities.**

**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.**

**No Planned Activities.**

**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.**

**Faculty and staff incentives for the continuing employment of existing staff and faculty of the local educational agency for the 2021-22 academic year due to COVID-19 recovery school-wide at 80 individuals at $2500.00 for a total of $200,000.00.**

**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 Cost @ 5% = $98,023.05.**

**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.**

FAMU DRS uses a multi-tiered system of supports to make data-based decisions about the intensity and duration of behavioral and academic supports and services necessary for our students. If adequate progress is not made for any tier (Tier I, Tier II, or Tier III), identified students are considered for appropriate supports and/or services. The district will require students who are identified as not making adequate progress or learning gains at any time during the school year to participate in intervention services including one-to-one instruction, afterschool academies and tutoring. Utilizing baseline and mid-year data, the district will continuously streamline and identify students who will benefit from continuous progress monitoring and appropriate/needed interventions. Moreover, increased opportunities for instructional time in the traditional learning platform will provide such students with extra support and progress monitoring for instructional time lost in core content areas.

**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.

**☒** 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.**

**☒ 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.

**☒ 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.

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

**☒ 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.

**☒ 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.

**☒ 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**  |
| Patricia R. West, Assistant Superintendent  |
| **Contact information: email, phone number** |
| patricia.west@famu.edu (850) 412-4930 |
| **Superintendent signature (or authorized representative)** |
| **Micheal D. Johnson** |