

SONORA ISD

ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act

Introduction

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act statute requires that LEAs develop and make publicly available their plans for the use of funds after having engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders. A summary of Sonora ISD's plans for ESSER III funding, aligned to four required components, is below.

Public Comment & Stakeholder Input

This plan was developed in consultation with stakeholders after soliciting public comment via electronic survey, public board meeting, and small group meetings.

Effective Date & Publication of Plan

The plan was written on July 15, 2021 and posted to the LEA website www.sonoraisd.net. Should revisions to the plan become necessary, the plan will be updated and a revised version posted on the website.

Required Components of Use of Funds Plan

Statute requires that LEAs describe its use of funds according to four components:

1. Prevention and mitigation strategies consistent to the latest CDC guidance on reopening schools in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning. (LEAs are not required to use ESSER III funds for this activity.)
2. How LEA will use funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year
3. How LEA will spend its remaining funds to meet the intent and purpose of ESSER III
4. How LEA will ensure the interventions 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 COVID19, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

Plan for Funding to Address Impact on Learning

Statute requires a minimum of 20% of ESSER III funding to be directed toward activities that address learning loss. This requirement is separated among two components:

- **Component #2:** Evidence-based interventions; and
- **Component #4:** Interventions that ensure the social, emotional, mental health needs of students are met

Initial 2/3 Entitlement: \$838,548	20% of Entitlement: \$167,710 <i>(minimum allowed)</i>
Total (initial + final amts.) Entitlement: \$	20% of Entitlement: \$ <i>(minimum allowed)</i>
Amount Directed Toward Learning Loss: \$751,777	

Component #2: Evidence-based Interventions

Sonora ISD will address learning loss through the following activities:

- Provide summer school to help students compensate for learning loss due to the pandemic;
- Provide after school tutorials to help students recover learning loss due to the pandemic;
- Equip school staff with professional development, instructional materials and subscriptions in order to help struggling students close gaps caused by the pandemic; and
- Provide diagnostician to identify academic deficiencies of students to help compensate for learning loss due to pandemic.

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 3/13/20 preaward - reimburse LEA for activities conducted prior to application submission
- 2020-2021 school year
- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Component #4: Interventions Addressing Academic, Social, Emotional Needs of Students

Sonora ISD will provide interventions responding academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, in particular underserved groups*, through the following activities:

- Provide a counselor to offer small group counseling sessions and address social skills deficits in students; and
- Provide a research based social skills/social thinking program.

**Underserved groups: low-income students; students of color; English learners; students with disabilities; students experiencing homelessness; children in foster care; migratory students*

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

Sonora ISD Use of ESSER III Funds Plan

Plan template provided by ESC Region 15



- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Plan for Other Needs

Statute requires that the remaining funds ($\leq 80\%$ of ESSER III entitlement) be spent on other needs aligned with the intent and purpose of ESSER III. This requirement is separated among two components:

- **Component #1:** Prevention and Mitigation Strategies (optional use of ESSER III); and
- **Component #3:** Remaining use of ESSER funds aligned to safely reopening and sustaining the safe operation of schools and addressing the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students

Initial 2/3 Entitlement: \$838,548	80% of Entitlement: \$670,838 <i>(maximum allowed)</i>
Total (initial + final amts.) Entitlement: \$	80% of Entitlement: \$ <i>(maximum allowed)</i>
Amount Directed Toward Other Needs: \$86,771	

Component #1: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

Sonora ISD will provide prevention and mitigation strategies consistent with CDC guidance (to the greatest extent possible) on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning.

Sonora ISD is supporting these strategies through ESSER III funding and will include the following:

- Upgrade A/C on school bus to improve air quality and ventilation to reduce spread of infectious diseases in response to the pandemic; and
- Contract with a custodial service to provide strategies and protocols aligned with CDC for proper operation of school facilities to mitigate and reduce the spread of contagious disease

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Component #3: Remaining Use of Funds

Sonora ISD will use the remaining funds to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. The following activities are planned:

- Contract with ESC 15 for enhanced ESSER technical support;
- Contract with ESC 15 for instructional support for teachers;
- Purchase education technology for students to aid in interaction between students and teachers in the event of a student absence due to illness or school closure;
- Provide stipends to teachers that remain in the field of education and return to Sonora ISD for employment.

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 3/13/20 preaward - reimburse LEA for activities conducted prior to application submission
- 2020-2021 school year
- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)