



Federal Coronavirus Relief Acts and Grant Funding

In 2020 and 2021, Congress passed three stimulus bills that provided nearly \$190.5 billion to the **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund**. States receive funds based on the same proportion that each state receives under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title-IA. Below is a summary of the acts related to K-12 educational funding.

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) On March 27, 2020, Congress passed H.R. 748, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, authorizing \$2.2 trillion in federal economic aid in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The legislation provided the bulk of its emergency funding to K-12 education through an overarching Educational Stabilization Fund, with states receiving approximately \$13.5 billion under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund) and another \$3 billion through the governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund). States are required to subgrant at least 90 percent of their funding to school districts (including charter schools that are considered school districts).

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act (CRRSA) The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA), was signed into law on December 27, 2020 and provides supplemental funding for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II Fund) to help K-12 educational entities prevent, prepare for, and respond to impacts of COVID-19.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2) was enacted and provides additional funding for school districts to respond to COVID-19 pandemic.

ESSER I

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

- Signed into law March 27, 2020
- Provided opportunities such as the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund; Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER I); and Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund
- Funding sunsets September 2022

ESSER II

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act (CRRSA)

- Signed into law December 27, 2020
- Provides additional dollars under Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II) and additional Higher Education Emergency Relief funds
- Funding sunsets September 2023

ESSER III

American Rescue Plan (ARP)

- Signed into law on March 11, 2021
- Provides additional dollars under Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III)
- Funding sunsets September 2024

ESSER I The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief I (ESSER I) Fund, authorized under section 18003 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), provides districts with emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary

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schools. Districts must provide equitable services to students and teachers in non-public schools as required under the CARES Act.

- Monies were distributed based on FY20 Title I share of total appropriation
- Required equitable participation for non-public schools
- Assurances requiring funds awarded through the application process be spent in accordance with the approved ESSER usage
- The funding period was March 12, 2020 to September 30, 2022

South Kingstown Public Schools received \$352,990 and a summary of expenditures are listed below-

- ESSER I**
- *Providing Educational Services/Reopening of Schools**
 - *Equitable Services for Private Schools
 - *Additional Custodial/Nursing Services
 - *Air Purifiers/Personal Protective Equipment
 - *Medical/Safety Supplies & Equipment

ESSER II The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act provide resources to school districts to address the impact the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools. The purpose of the ESSER II fund is to provide districts with emergency relief funds to address the impact COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools that are providing educational services and is intended to help school districts safely reopen schools, and with a focus on acceleration rather than remediation.

- Funds available through September 30, 2023
- Funds must be treated as non-recurring emergency aid and avoid building in programmatic costs that may not be sustainable after the grant period ends in order to avoid future structural budget issues.
- **At least 50% of funding must be spent on overall acceleration activities**
- **At least 25% of funding must be spent on summer activities**

South Kingstown Public Schools received an allotment of \$1,334,163 below is a summary of the budget-

- ESSER II**
- Overall Acceleration Activities-at least 50%**
 - Summer Activities-at least 25%**
 - *Extended Summer Learning Programs (Inc. Wraparound Svcs)
 - *Continuation of Additional Custodial/Nursing Services
 - *Additional Supports for Dismissal/Arrival
 - *Instructional Reading Supports/Supplies/Prof. Development
 - *Behavioral Supports/Prof Development
 - *Instructional Staff-Accelerated Learning

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ESSER III The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, was enacted on March 11, 2021. The ARP Act provides additional funding for school districts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Education portion of ARP is known as the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III or ARP ESSER) Fund. The purpose of the ESSER III fund is to support the safe reopening and sustaining safe operations of schools while meeting students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Funds available through September 30, 2024
- Allowable cost for ESSER III are the same as ESSER I/II
- No equitable service requirements for ESSER III
- Governor issues guidance on concerns with using funds for construction projects
- **At least 20% of total allocation must be allocated toward addressing learning loss**

South Kingstown Public Schools received an allotment of \$2,997,282 below is a summary of the budget-

ESSER III

Addressing Learning Loss-at least 20%

- *Extended Summer Learning Programs (Inc. Wraparound Svs)
- *Instructional Reading Supports/Supplies/Prof. Development
- *Registered Behavior Technicians/Behavior Supports
- *Instructional Coaches for High Quality Professional Development
- *Instructional Math Supports-Learning Loss Middle School Level
- *Early Childhood Coordination and Supports

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