



Montana

Office of Public Instruction

ESSER Guidance Sessions – January

Updating School Plans and the Annual Federal Data Reporting Process

Prepare, Prevent, and Respond

January 19, 2023

PRESENTER

Wendi Fawns, ESSER/EANS Director
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Thanks to [CCSSO](#) and [Edunomics](#)

ESSER Team Contact Info

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 - Any and all questions about ESSER Grants, Large Purchase/Project process
- Rebecca Brown, ESSER Program Manager
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 - Any and all questions about ESSER Grants
- Jessika Bol, ESSER Administrative Specialist
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 - Any and all questions about ESSER Grants
- Steven Morgan, ESSER Grant Accountant
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 - Accounting questions including Cash Requests, Final Expenditure Report (FER)
- Mindi Askelson, E-Grants Designer
 - mindi.askelson@mt.gov or 406-444-0768
 - Technical support in E-Grants – **not** specific questions about ESSER allowable use, etc

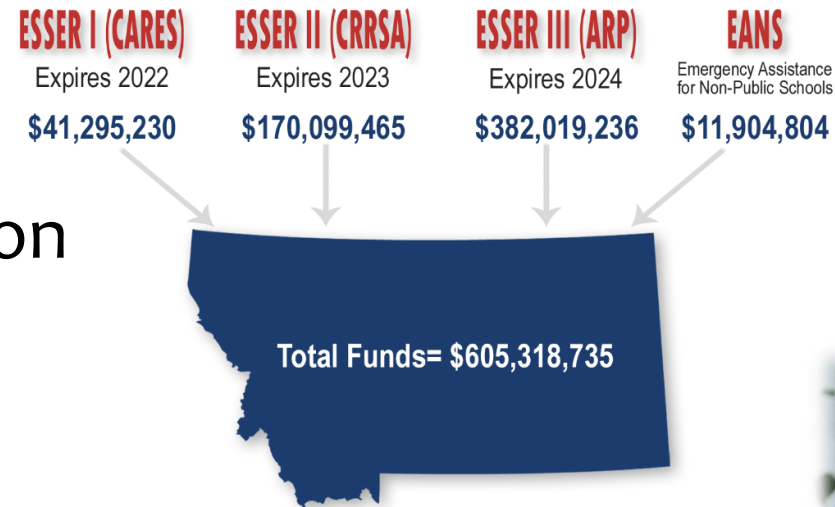


Goals For This Session

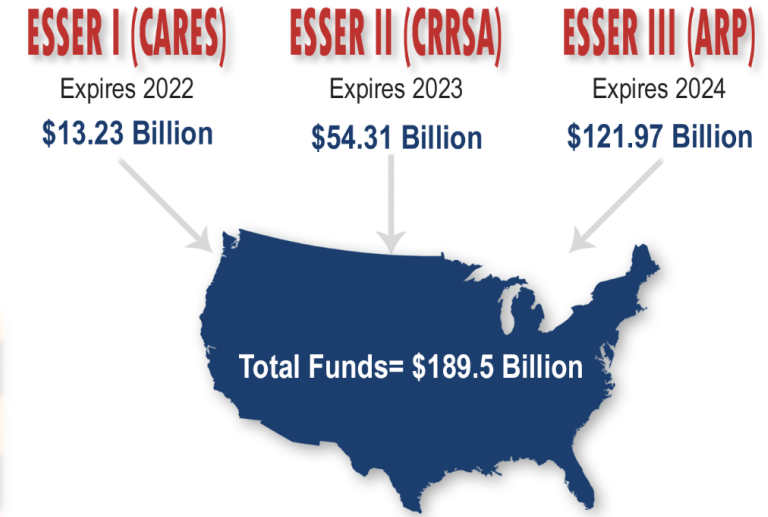
- School Plans
 - Safe Return
 - ESSER ARP (Use of Funds)
 - Stakeholder Involvement
- Annual Federal Data Reporting
 - Past and Anticipated Data Collection
 - Tips on Preparation
- Wrap-Up and OPI Resources
- Q&A




Montana Schools



Nationally



SCHOOL PLANS



A Brief Review of the School Plans

OPI offered a more in-depth training in September, which you can view here: <https://youtu.be/50lcp-XxzvQ>



School Plans – ESSER ARP (Use of Funds)

- **ARP ESSER or ESSER ARP Plan (use of funds)**
 - High level anticipated use of funds
 - Changeable through amendment process throughout grant life
 - District generated and OPI/District maintained
 - Update twice a year with community engagement
 - OPI required to view June and December
 - Consider updating in May and November
- **Unique portal in Qualtrics – secure access**
 - Generates a pdf file (confirmation email)
- **Stored on district site as a pdf**



School Plans – Safe Return

- **Safe Return Plans**

- Similar to earthquake, intruder/lockdown plans
 - Don't send to green door when it's been painted black
- District generates and maintains
- Update twice a year with community engagement
 - OPI required to view June and December
 - Consider updating May and November

- **Stored on district site as a pdf**



Safe Return and ARP Plan - Maintenance

- Possible considerations for maintaining the Plans
 - Pdf files stored in the same location
 - Pdf files named with author, date, district name
 - Safe Return Plan Helena WF Nov22
 - ARP Plan Helena WF Nov22
 - Pdf files on the same webpage
 - Single link can be uploaded into E-Grants (LEA Plan)

School Plans – Stakeholder Involvement

- Transparent and Trackable grant management
 - **ESSER ARP** (use of funds) **Plans**, due December and June
 - **Safe Return Plans** Glendive, Evergreen, due Dec and June



Glendive Public Schools Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan

Date of Original Adoption: April 29, 2020
Date Plan was Last Revised: June 13, 2022

Next Regularly Scheduled Month for Consideration (Quarterly): 3/14/21

Dates Reviewed: 3/9/20, 3/15/20, 3/17/20, 3/20, 3/25/20, 3/30/20, 4/6/20, 4/16/20, 4/29/20, 5/5/20,
5/11/20, 6/8/20, 6/29/20, 7/13/20, 7/21/20, 7/29/20, 8/3/20, 8/6/20, 8/10/20, 9/8/20, 9/14/20, 10/12/20,
11/9/20, 12/7/20, 12/17/20, 1/11/21, 2/8/21, 3/8/21, 4/12/21, 5/10/21, 6/14/21, 8/9/21, 12/13/21,
6/13/22

Posted on Website: June 16, 2021
Revised and Posted on Website: December 14, 2021
Revised and Posted on Website: June 13, 2022



Evergreen School District Safe Return to Schools and Continuity of Services Plan for COVID-19 Most Recent Update Approved on June 9, 2021

Plan Posting and Approval Dates

Initial Plan Adopted: March 18, 2020, March 26, 2020, July 13, 2020, August 12, 2020
Plan Posted for Public Review: June 4, 2021
Updated Plan Approved: June 9, 2021
Plan Reviewed: August 11, 2021, September 8, 2021, October 13, 2021, November 10, 2021
Updated Plan Posted for Public Review: November 18, 2021
Updated Plan Approved: December 8, 2021
Plan Reviewed: January 12, 2022, February 9, 2022, March 9, 2022, April 13, 2022, and May 11, 2022
Updated Plan Posted for Public Review: May 16, 2022
Updated Plan Approved: June 8, 2022

School Plans – Stakeholder Involvement

- Guidance document for Plans

- Template

- FAQ (page 14, 17...)

- Meaningful Consultation

- ☐ Parents
- ☐ Students
- ☐ Teachers
- ☐ Staff
- ☐ Tribal governments
- ☐ Local bargaining units
- ☐ Educational advocacy organizations
- ☐ County health departments
- ☐ Community members
- ☐ Other (please identify in the box below)

OPI guidance on **Meaningful Stakeholder Consultation & Communication** is here:

<https://youtu.be/cwvznj4l8MI>

- ☐ Webinars
- ☐ Public meetings
- ☐ Website
- ☐ Media
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Other (please identify in the box below)

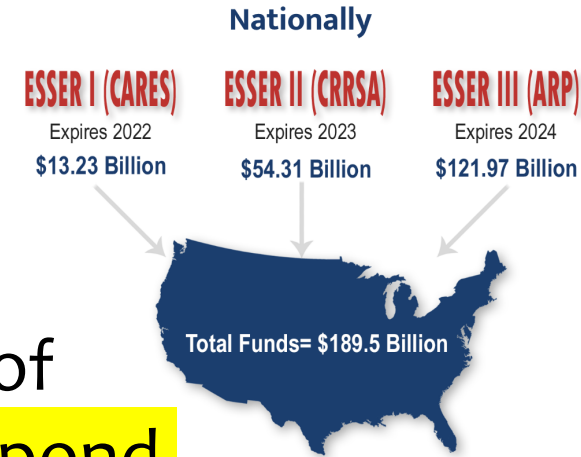
ANNUAL FEDERAL DATA REPORTING

A Brief Review of the Annual Data Reporting process

OPI offered a more in-depth training in September, which you can view here: <https://youtu.be/mjHQBH6tSrs>

Focus on Student Gains – Outcomes

- Department of Education– Federal Grant
 - For ALL activities charged to ESSER, costs must be reasonable and necessary to meet the overall purpose of the program, which is “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to” COVID-19 including those circumstances that were exacerbated by Covid. (See 2 CFR §§ 200.403-200.404.)
 - Tracking of allocated funds
 - Reporting on how funds were used/spent – outcome of funds
- State, Districts, Public, etc.





DOE Announcements, Fact Sheets...

- Pivot to embrace online, innovative, and learning environments
 - 55 Million+ students
- Schools focused on attendance campaigns
- Programming focused intentionally on:
 - Intensive academic intervention
 - Health targeted efforts to address the whole student
 - Recruitment and retention to retain valued education workforce
 - Math, Reading ... targeted to address critical learning gaps
 - College/Career readiness.....

1st Annual

2nd Annual

3rd Annual



Annual Report – No Magic Just Trend Analysis

- The new ESSA requirement to report school-by-school spending provides a unique opportunity to inform policy, management, and improvement about the financial elements of schooling.
- Two-year pilot with greater transparency on spending related to outcomes...
- Anticipated data collection will be deeper
 - A lot of money
 - from public pocket
 - what was it spent on



Annual Report – Tips on Preparation

- Track expenditures in excel/sheets – braid not blend
 - Clearly identify student gains/outcomes
 - Review expenditures at least quarterly
- Engage the public
 - Promote and share out to build support

Annual Report – Stakeholder Involvement

- **Federal annual report**
 - Funding and outcomes attached
 - Participation numbers and spending categories
- **Ongoing ESSER stakeholder engagement**
 - The active process of involving those who may be affected by ESSER decisions (students, parents, teachers, community)
 - Connecticut is giving students \$1.5 Million ESSER funds to make decisions on allocation



OPI guidance on
**Meaningful
Stakeholder
Consultation &
Communication**
is here:


<https://youtu.be/cwvznj4l8MI>

Resources at OPI.MT.GOV

ELO Webpage:

<https://opi.mt.gov/COVID-19-Information/ESSER/ESSER-ARP-Summer-Enrichment-Grant-Info>


P.O. Box 202501 • Helena, MT 59620-2501
Calendar
About Us


PUTTING MONTANA STUDENTS FIRST

Search...

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Safety & Student Support

Montana Office of Public Instruction



Welcome to the Office of Public Instruction

Superintendent Elsie Arntzen is proud to serve our Montana families, students, and teachers. **Families are the foundation of learning as our parents are our first teachers.** Our students are our most precious resource and the future of this great state. As a teacher of 23 years, the Superintendent knows the importance of quality educators in the classroom and is working to ensure Montana teachers have the flexibility needed to put our Montana students first.


The Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is charged with the responsibility of providing technical assistance in:

- School Finance
- School Law
- Teacher Certification and Licensing
- School Accreditation
- Teaching and Learning Standards

The OPI staff administer a number of federally funded programs and provide a variety of information services, including the information systems necessary to assess student achievement and the quality of Montana's elementary and secondary school systems.

- › 2021-2022 Summative
- › 2023 Teacher of the Year
- › Meet the Executive Staff
- › OPI Organizational Chart
- › See OPI Press Releases
- › ESSER
 - › EANS
 - › Broadband
- › Assessment Scores

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT


PUTTING MONTANA STUDENTS FIRST

Search...

Families & Students
Educators
Leadership
Contact
Safety & Student Support

Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)

Welcome to the Emergency American Rescue Plan (ARP) and Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) webpage for the Office of Public Instruction

Superintendent Elsie Arntzen is proud to serve our Montana families, students, and teachers through the administration of the ESSER education funding of just over \$605 million. [Each district was awarded](#) ESSER funding based on Title I student count. Across the state, Districts are using ESSER funding in innovative, valuable ways, enabling schools and their partners to implement highly effective and beneficial programs. The countdown is here with ESSER I (CARES) expiring 2022, ESSER II (CRRSA) expiring 2023, and ESSER III (ARP) expiring 2024 ([comparison chart p.4](#)). OPI has established a system of support to ensure grant funding compliance and provide advocacy in use of funds.

MEET THE ESSER / EANS TEAM

CLICK TO WATCH THE ESSER FUNDING USE PANEL DISCUSSION

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)

E-Grants Login Page:

<https://egrants.opi.mt.gov/opigmsweb/logon.aspx>