



Montana

Office of Public Instruction

ESSER Federal Data Collection Webinar

January 26, 2022

Webinar 4: Review and FAQ



Webinar is being recorded

- If you have questions please enter them into the chat and we will address them as we go.
- You are welcome to unmute and interject a question. Please speak clearly so your colleagues can hear the question.



Session Purpose

- Provide a brief overview of the ESSER Federal Data Collection.
- Review of time-lines for completion.
- Walk through FAQs that we have been receiving.
- Field question you may have.



Session Details

- The requirements in section 2001(i) of the ARP Act relating to the ARP ESSER funds are published in the [Federal Register](#) and also outlined by the Department in the [ESSER and GEER FAQ](#) document.
- The OPI has developed a FAQ document to provide grantees information about the grant, including eligibility, and grant requirements.
- The [ESSER guidance documents](#) are available on the OPI website, which outlines allowable uses for the grant.
- **Disclaimer:** Similar to the FAQ document issued by the USED on ESSER and GEER, “the contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. The information is subject to change as additional information is released by the USED.

OPI Presenter Introductions



WELCOME!



OPI Staff

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 - ESSER-OPI@mt.gov

ESSER Summary

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER):

- 3 Rounds of ESSER funds have been authorized by Congress in response to COVID-19 pandemic.



Data Collection Orientation

- Why must we submit a data collection for ESSER funds?
 - The three congressional acts that established the ESSER Program (CARES, CCRSA, & ARPA) charge USED with the responsibility of monitoring funds to ensure appropriate use.
 - The data provides a tool for measuring funding effectiveness.
 - In applying for the funds, districts agreed to provide requested data.

Data Collection Orientation

- What types of information is being collected?
 - Expenditure details
 - Safe School Reopening and Infrastructure info.
 - 20% Set-aside for Lost Instructional details
 - Hiring, Retention, and FTE data
 - Home Internet and Technology information
 - Equitable Support for Learning Recovery and Acceleration data

Data Collection Orientation

- What time period does this data collection cover?
 - The Federal Fiscal year from **October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021**. This is for both fiscal and programmatic data.
- How should my data be broken down?
 - Data should be **reported by LEA**. This means that systems that manage two or more districts must complete the data collection for each district.

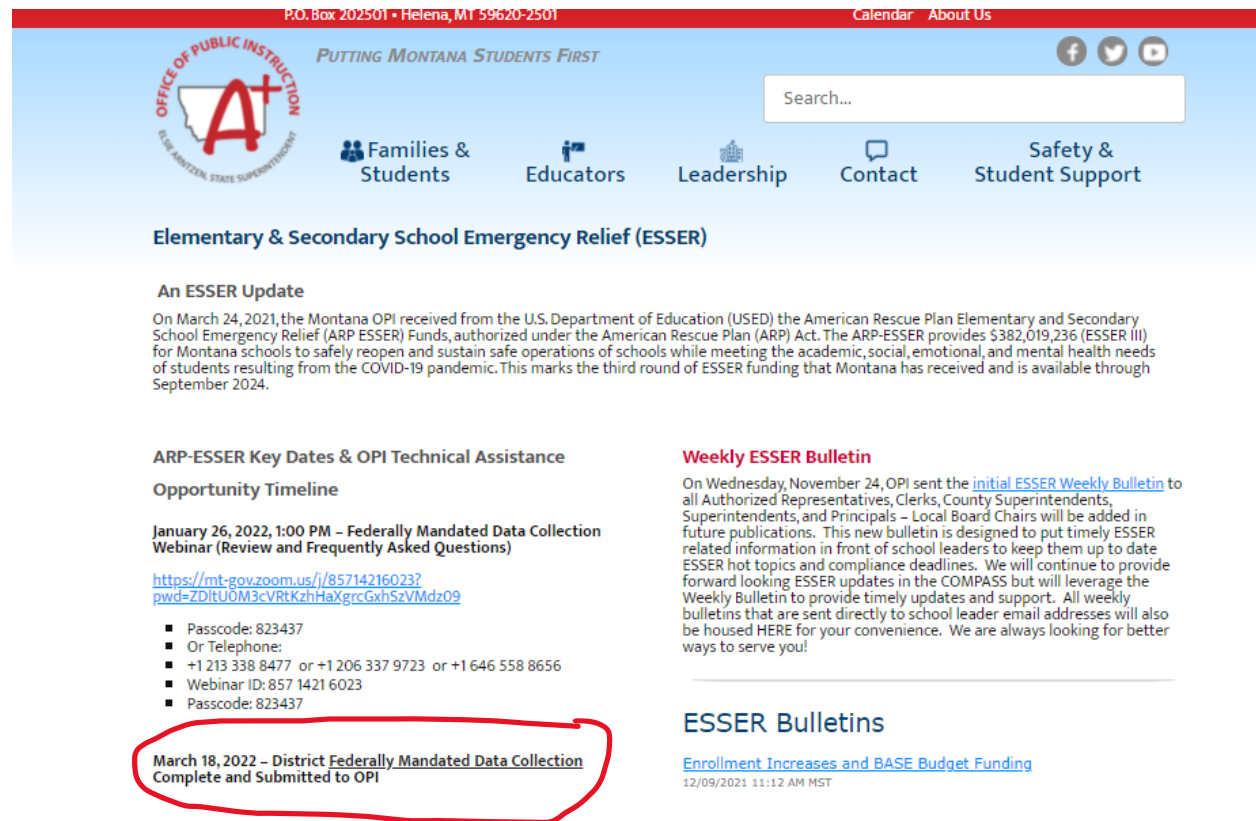


Key Dates

- When must the collection be complete?
 - **March 18, 2022** – Data Collection Submitted to OPI
- Will there be additional technical support?
 - Yes, as needed. We will be monitoring questions that are coming in and provide office hours in February to address new frequently asked questions. Please be watching the ESSER Bulletin for updates.


Data Collection Tool:

- Where do I go to access the data collection tool?



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Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)

An ESSER Update

On March 24, 2021, the Montana OPI received from the U.S. Department of Education (USED) the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Funds, authorized under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. The ARP-ESSER provides \$382,019,236 (ESSER III) for Montana schools to safely reopen and sustain safe operations of schools while meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. This marks the third round of ESSER funding that Montana has received and is available through September 2024.

ARP-ESSER Key Dates & OPI Technical Assistance Opportunity Timeline

January 26, 2022, 1:00 PM – Federally Mandated Data Collection Webinar (Review and Frequently Asked Questions)

<https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/85714216023?pwd=ZDlRU0M3cVRtKzhHaXgrcGxhSzMzMz09>

- Passcode: 823437
- Or Telephone: +1 213 338 8477 or +1 206 337 9723 or +1 646 558 8656
- Webinar ID: 857 1421 6023
- Passcode: 823437

March 18, 2022 – District Federally Mandated Data Collection Complete and Submitted to OPI

Weekly ESSER Bulletin

On Wednesday, November 24, OPI sent the [initial ESSER Weekly Bulletin](#) to all Authorized Representatives, Clerks, County Superintendents, Superintendents, and Principals – Local Board Chairs will be added in future publications. This new bulletin is designed to put timely ESSER related information in front of school leaders to keep them up to date ESSER hot topics and compliance deadlines. We will continue to provide forward looking ESSER updates in the COMPASS but will leverage the Weekly Bulletin to provide timely updates and support. All weekly bulletins that are sent directly to school leader email addresses will also be housed HERE for your convenience. We are always looking for better ways to serve you!

ESSER Bulletins

[Enrollment Increases and BASE Budget Funding](#)
12/09/2021 11:12 AM MST



Data Collection Tool

- Where can I find me district login information?
 - Your district log-in information was sent to your Authorized Representative in an email from jeffrey.kirksey@mt.gov on December 13, 2021. If you can not locate this information please email: ESSER-OPI@mt.gov

Data Collection Tool:



Data Collection Tool

Helpful Links

OPI ESSER Website

March 18th 2022 - Deadline for all districts to submit data to the OPI

Webinars:

January 5, 2022, 10:00 AM – [Data Collection Webinar](#) (Orientation and Expenditure Details)

<https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/89282184011?pwd=d3RvNzdGZHlZY01LN1BxdVJXVWtHQT09>

- Passcode: 954267
- Or Telephone
- +1 213 338 8477 or +1 206 337 9723 or +1 646 558 8656
- Webinar ID: 892 8218 4011
- Passcode: 954267

January 12, 2022, 1:00 PM – [Data Collection Webinar](#) (Equitable Support & Safe Reopening)

<https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/89573004446?pwd=YzlkdnNqZG1GaDhVMnJzSmZlb2VwQT09>

- Passcode: 633226
- Or Telephone:

Data Collection – Helpful Links

- [FAQ](#)
- **Video Overview**
 - This is a complex data collection. We have done our best build a collection tool that reduces the collection burden where possible. This video provides you with an overview of the tool design and development and provides some tips about how to approach data collection
 - [Click Here for Video](#)
- **Worksheets**
 - In order to support district leaders in the collection of the data requested in these tools we have created a set of worksheets. These worksheets are a nearly exact match to the data collection tools. You can print or download these worksheets to use in your process. The worksheets linked here are identical to those that are on the tool access pages. We have collected them in one place here to make them easier to download.
 - [Full Worksheet Set](#)
 - [20% for Lost Instructional Time Worksheet](#)
 - [Expenditure Details Worksheet](#)
 - [Safe School Reopening and Infrastructure Worksheet](#)
 - [Hiring, Retention, and FTE Worksheet](#)
 - [Home Internet and Technology Worksheet](#)
 - [Equitable Support for Recovery and Acceleration Worksheet](#)
- **Federal Document**
 - The OPI generated these tools based on the document linked below. Our intent is to collect the minimum data required for Federal Reporting. We are providing the link to the federal document in the interest of transparency.
 - <https://omb.report/icr/202106-1810-006/doc/115839200>



20% Set-aside for Lost Instructional Time

- What is the 20% set-aside and how is this reported?
 - Lost Instructional Time allowable uses must be evidence-based interventions to promote learning acceleration or emotional wellbeing.
 - This is a category specifically for ESSER III.
 - We have delineated this funding for you in e-grants, but it is part of your BASE allocation from the Federal Government for ESSER III

- Can districts reimburse themselves with ESSER funds, for ESSER allowable expenses, after a fiscal year has closed?
 - Yes, allowable use expenses back to March 13, 2020 can be funded with ESSER dollars.
 - Districts will need to complete a prior period adjustment. The OPI School Finance Team can assist with this.



Open Questions

- What questions do you have?
- Do you have any clarifying questions about the responses we have provided?



Resources

OPI Website:
opi.mt.gov



Welcome to the Montana Office of Public Instruction!

As Graduation Season is upon us, I extend my congratulations to the tremendous and resilient Class of 2021! Montana is so proud of you!

On June 7, 2021, the Montana OPI submitted to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) its State Plan for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund. This plan recognizes local control, removes obstacles and barriers for schools, and enhances accountability without being overly burdensome.

[VIEW ARP ESSER PLAN](#)

[FIND ESSER INFORMATION](#)

The ARP Act represents the third round of funding to come through the ESSER fund, and Montana's allocation totals more than \$382,000,000. In previous rounds, Montana received more than \$41,000,000 (ESSER I) and \$170,000,000 (ESSER II). Through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS), the state also received nearly \$20 million for home and private schools. Two-thirds of the ESSER III funding has already been released to schools; once USED approves the State Plan, the OPI will be able to release the remaining one-third, or roughly \$126 million. Please check the "Find ESSER Information" on this website for regularly updated information. If your school district has any questions on ESSER, please direct them to jeffrey.kirksey@mt.gov.

[FIND EANS INFORMATION \(HOME & PRIVATE SCHOOL COVID FUNDING\)](#)

On June 24th and 25th, the OPI will host the Montana Education Virtual Summit & Job Fair supporting our Montana school districts with information and insight on Post-COVID opportunities for students.

[MEET EXECUTIVE STAFF](#)

Work Sessions include:

- The ARPA State Plan and the LEA Plan
- Meaningful Stakeholder Consultation
- What do the Data Tell
- What is the purpose of K-12 Education?
- Reimagining State Assessments

[SEE OPI PRESS RELEASES](#)

Dr. Yong Zhao will keynote the conference and provide support related to: "Avoiding the Learning Loss Trap" and "The Changes We Need."

The event is free to attend; there is a \$50 charge for school districts seeking to participate in the Job Fair and host a virtual recruitment booth. Please see the [registration page](#) for additional details.

Thank you!

For questions or additional information please contact
Jeff Kirksey: ESSER-OPI@mt.gov (406)444-0783