



Montana

Office of Public Instruction

**Leveraging ESSER Funds - Virtual Conference
National and State Overview**

Prepare, Prevent, and Respond

August 9, 2022



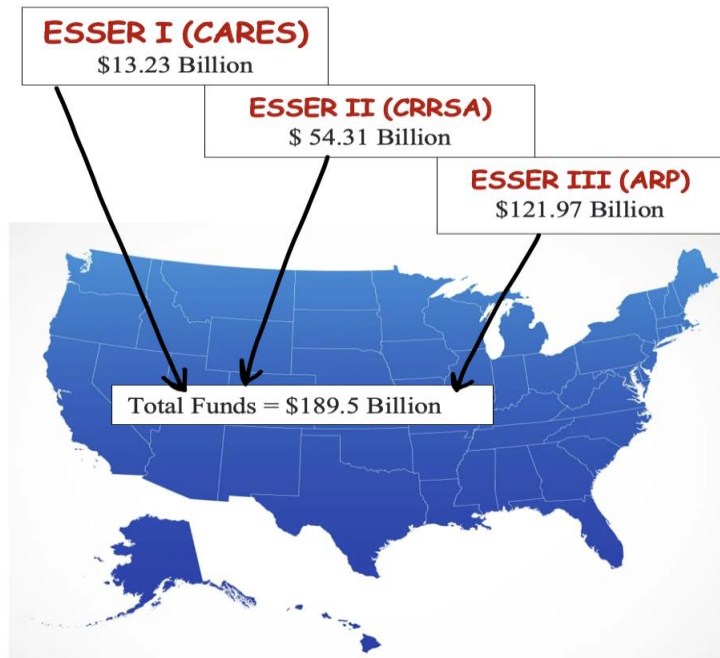
Goals For This Session

- National and Montana allocations
- Significance of the funding formula
 - Title I source anchor and subset allocations
- Spending Comparisons
- Montana and others Pivot to embrace online and innovation
- ESSER System of Support role and responsibility
 - Advocate and Auditor

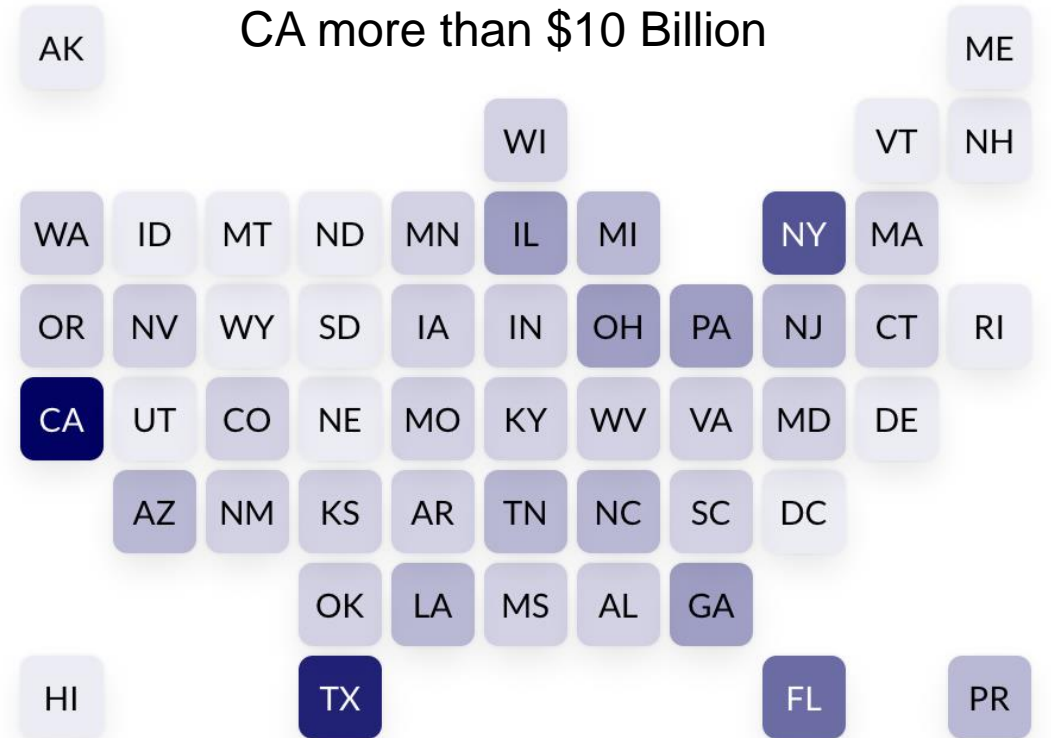
Presenters: **Wendi Fawns**, ESSER/EANS Director

ESSER Allocated Funds

- ESSER I (CARES) expires 2022
- ESSER II (CRRSA) expires 2023
- ESSER III (ARP) expires 2024



MT less than \$ 1 Billion
WA between \$1-9 Billion
CA more than \$10 Billion





Significance of Funding Formula Title I and ESSER Connection

- Funds are awarded based on Title I guidelines/proportions
 - Title I and ESSER funds allocation and use are very similar
 - Identified and reported Title I student count matters
- HB 632: 20% of ESSER III (ARP) must be used **specifically to address learning loss** (afterschool, summer enrichment, type programming targeting most impacted/Title I target)

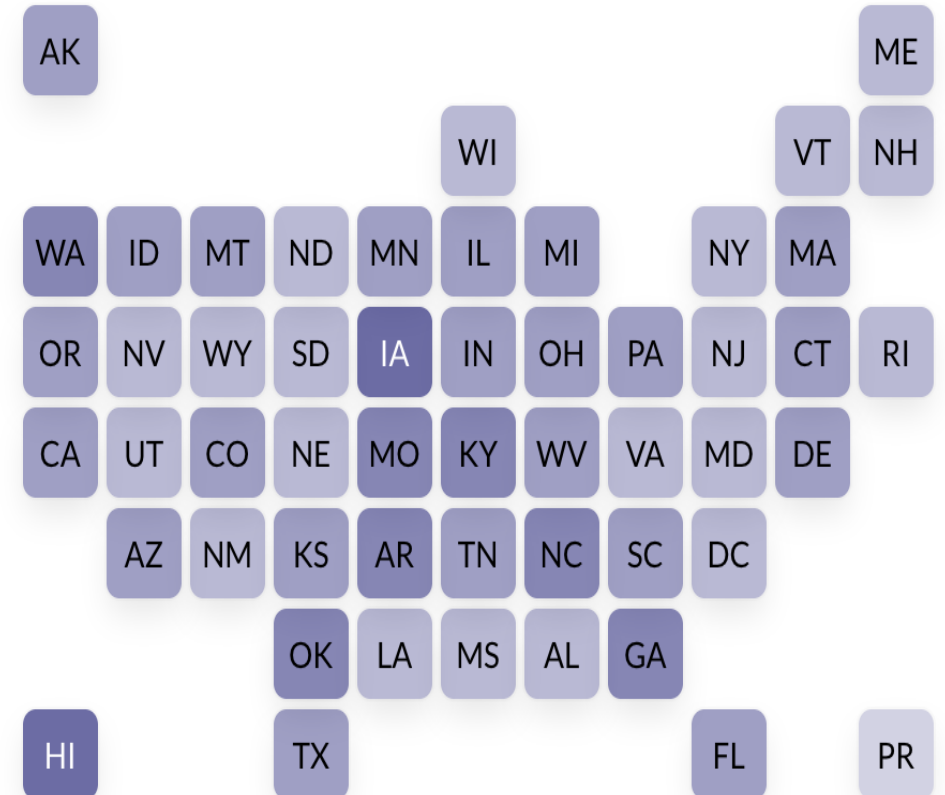


ESSER Spending Comparison

As of June 30, 2022

	CARES	CRRSA	ARP	Total
Montana	87%	43%	13%	27%
Idaho	97%	63%	10%	31%
Nevada	96%	44%	4.5%	21%
Wyoming	95%	46%	3.4%	22%
North Dakota	94%	25%	11%	24%
South Dakota	97%	24%	6.2%	18%

Lighter shaded states spent less than dark shaded states



Data retrieved from DOE site: <https://covid-relief-data.ed.gov/>



ESSER Funding used to Innovate

- Pivot to embrace online, innovative, and learning environments
 - 55 Million+ students
- Schools focused on attendance campaigns often using
 - high touch (phone calls, text, and in-person visits)
 - SIS and CRM software for profiling student needs and providing services
- Programming focused intentionally on:
 - Intensive academic intervention (individual, online, and small group tutoring)
 - Career/college programs: dual enrollment, summer career camps
 - Recruitment and retention to retain valued education workforce
 - Math, Reading, and connectivity needs targeted to address critical gaps
 - Health targeted efforts to address the whole student



OPI's System of Support

Advocate	Auditor
Assist in securing operationally, technically, and financially feasible solutions	Documentation templates and report reviews; plans, data collection, projects
Helping to reduce work effort by demonstrating how one task can lead to more than one gain (public awareness of ESSER spending leading to future funding)	Monitoring and reporting on grant compliance
Training passing along information, regulations, guidelines	DOE ongoing training passing along information, regulations, guidelines



ESSER Conference Schedule

- National and State Overview
- Broadband Overview
- Egrant Amendments and Cash Requests
- Reporting and Data Compliance
- Audit Trail Reports/Compliance
- Egrant Navigating
- ESSER Impacts
- ESSER Hall of Fame
- Sessions Repeated: Audit Trail and Egrants sessions



Resources at OPI.MT.GOV

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.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

MEET EXECUTIVE STAFF

OPI ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

SEE OPI PRESS RELEASES

ESSER



[Wendi Fawns](#)
ESSER/EANS Director

Wendi's grandmothers were elementary teachers and her parents' college professors. They shaped Wendi's passion for learning anywhere, anytime and in varied formats. Wendi has taught dyslexic readers in elementary schools and provided college/career program support to schools and families across Montana. Her career in social work, information technology, and education have centered around helping customers identify goals and gain the resources necessary to succeed. She holds a BA in Sociology with MIS focus and a MA in Education Leadership. She is a strong customer advocate, member of Rotary and P.E.O. International, and mother of a Montana high school teacher and Arizona college advisor.

406-437-8595



[Rebecca Brown](#)
ESSER Program Manager

Rebecca Brown is joining us from the Bozeman School District where she worked as an ICTE instructor, teaching Metals, Woods, and Auto shop classes. Rebecca holds a BS in Technology Education from Montana State University, Bozeman. She has just recently moved to Helena with her husband, cats, and parakeet. Born and raised in Montana, Rebecca feels nothing can beat a gorgeous Montana summer weekend spent camping and floating on the river.

406-444-0783



[Victoria Hoefler](#)
Broadband Data Specialist

Victoria Hoefler relocated to Montana from the Atlanta, Georgia area. Victoria's previous roles in Corporate America include IT Support, Project Management, B2B Client Support, Software Training and Copywriting. In her secondary job, Victoria serves as the Founder and President of a 501(c)3 Charity bringing awareness to mental health needs of Military Veterans and better quality of life for Military Families. She is looking forward to identifying effective ways to improve broadband internet data in the school throughout Montana.

406-438-3601

Thank you!

For questions or additional information please contact:

ESSER Program Questions

Wendi Fawns at wendi.fawns@mt.gov or 406-437-8595

Rebecca Brown at rebecca.brown@mt.gov or 406-444-0783