



7/25/2024

Adam Schott
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
400 Maryland Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20202

The Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) requests approval for this Consolidated Administrative Tydings Funds Waiver to extend the period of availability for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) and Homeless Children and Youth (HCY) administrative funds and fiscal year (FY) 2022 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) program administrative funds that are consolidated under ESEA section 8201 to March 31, 2026.

The waiver would allow the OPI to use funds reserved for administration under ESEA section 8201 to address ongoing administrative costs, including contract closeouts, final payment processing of payments to LEAs, providing support to LEAs for completing their billing and reporting, state level reporting on the use of funds, conducting ongoing monitoring of subgrantees, managing close-out activities, and avoiding diverting funds away from critical services for LEAs, schools, students, teachers, and other educational staff. Additionally, the waiver would allow the OPI to continue to focus its resources on meeting students' academic and other needs, including groups of students most impacted by the pandemic.

OPI seeks approval to consolidate the following programs pursuant to ESEA section 8401(b)(1):

ARP Programs	ESSA Programs
ARP ESSER ARP EANS ARP HCY	1. Title I, Part A of the ESEA (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs) 2. Title I, Part C of the ESEA (Education of Migratory Children)



ARP Programs	ESSA Programs
	<p>3. Title I, Part D, Subpart 1 of the ESEA (Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquent, or At Risk)</p> <p>4. Title II, Part A of the ESEA (Supporting Effective Instruction)</p> <p>5. Title III, Part A of the ESEA (English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement)</p> <p>6. Title IV, Part A of the ESEA (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)</p> <p>7. Title IV, Part B of the ESEA (21st Century Community Learning Centers)</p> <p>8. Title V, Part B, Subpart 2 of the ESEA (Rural and Low-Income School Program)</p>

OPI will use the consolidated administrative funds under the respective programs in accordance with the provisions of all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications.

Per usual practice for collecting public comment, Montana OPI has provided the public with the opportunity to comment on this request by posting information regarding the waiver request and the commenting process on the Montana OPI Website and through the OPI e-gov bulletin used for public notice. Below is a summary of the comments received and how the State addressed them. *[Note: this summary will be provided after the close of the public comment period.]*

Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please email deann.willcut@mt.gov.

Sincerely,

Elsie Arntzen
State Superintendent