



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 12, 2021

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School, Renaissance School Project Leads

Route To: ESEA Directors, Directors of Special Education, School Business Administrators, Staff involved with ESSER Funds

From: Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D
Acting Commissioner of Education

American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Funds State Plan Approval

I am pleased to share that today, the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) [announced](#) its [approval](#) of New Jersey's ARP ESSER State Plan. The [approved plan](#) reflects New Jersey's commitment to supporting students, educators, and schools as they safely return to in-person learning while addressing the academic, social, emotional, and mental health impacts of COVID-19. We are grateful to education stakeholders, including members of the State Board of Education, whose consultation helped ensure that our State's use of ARP ESSER funds meets the needs of all students and educators; and to the USDE, with whose guidance the NJDOE further refined its ARP ESSER State Plan to ensure that ARP ESSER funds are targeted to the populations for which remote learning posed the [greatest challenges](#), such as our [youngest learners](#). For additional information, please see [highlights](#) of the approved plan and visit the NJDOE's ARP ESSER [webpage](#).

New Jersey will receive a total of \$2,766,529,533 in ARP ESSER Funds. Eligible Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) already have access to two-thirds (2/3) of their ARP ESSER Fund awards through the [Electronic Web Enabled Grant \(EWEG\)](#) system. As was done for ESSER I and ESSER II, the NJDOE will regularly provide information regarding ARP ESSER as soon as it becomes available. Additional details on how LEAs will gain access to the remaining one-third (1/3) of their ARP ESSER Fund allocation, as well as details regarding the additional subgrants funded by the NJDOE's ARP ESSER state set-aside, are forthcoming. An overview of those subgrants may be found in Section D. "Maximizing State-Level Funds to Support Students" of the NJDOE's approved plan linked-to above, beginning on page 36.

If you have questions regarding the ARP ESSER grant application process, please contact ESSER@doe.nj.gov. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group