



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 28, 2023
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
School Business Administrators
From: Amanda Schultz, Executive Director/CFO
Division of Finance & Business Services

Fiscal Year 2023 Reimbursement Payments and Project End Date – CRRSA ESSERF

Please be advised that the project period for Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (CRRSA-ESSERF) ends on **September 30, 2023**. Local educational agencies (LEAs) are urged to expend these funds with expediency. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) does not have legal authority to extend the project period as the project period was established by the CRRSA statute. All funds must be obligated no later than September 30, 2023 and liquidated with the submission of the Final Expenditure Report (FER) in the Electronic Web Enabled Grants (EWEG) system. FERs are due no later than October 20, 2023. See the [Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations \(CRRSA\) & Non-Title IA Broadcast](#) for additional information regarding the CRRSA-ESSER FERs.

As of August 17, 2023 payments to LEAs totaling approximately \$1.03 billion in CRRSA-ESSERF have been made. While these figures confirm that many LEAs have submitted regular reimbursement requests and received funds, NJDOE records show that a significant number of LEAs have not submitted regular reimbursement requests and, as a result, a substantial amount of funds remain in this grant program. It is the intention and goal of the NJDOE that 100% of CRRSA-ESSERF funds allocated to districts are fully expended.

LEAs are reminded that all expenditures should be in alignment with the allowable uses for CRRSA-ESSER which can be found here: <https://www.nj.gov/education/esser/crrsa/>. Bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenditures paid to educators with CRRSA-ESSER funds may be considered an allowable use if it is related to disruptions or closures related to COVID-19.

For have any questions, or require additional information, please contact the Office of Grants Management at (609) 376-9089 or esserf@doe.nj.gov.

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