



UNITED NEW JERSEYS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

January 14, 2025

The Honorable Kevin Dehmer
Acting Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Education
100 Riverview Plaza
PO Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Superintendent Dehmer:

I write in response to New Jersey's request for additional time to liquidate obligations for the American Rescue Plan Act's Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER) program, Grant Award S425U210027. Specifically, New Jersey's January 3, 2025, liquidation extension request specifies the need for additional time to liquidate \$85,514,318.15 of ARP ESSER funds after the period of liquidation under 2 CFR § 200.344(b) expires. After careful review, I have determined that New Jersey's request provides sufficient justification and documentation for an extension to the period of liquidation for ARP ESSER funds and approve the extension through March 28, 2026.

This request is approved with the condition that the funds drawn down in the G6 system from Grant Award S425U210027 be used only to liquidate obligations for programmatic expenses incurred by September 30, 2024, and support costs that were allowable under laws and regulations in effect during the program period. Consistent with New Jersey's approved Tydings waiver, the State may continue to obligate consolidated State administrative funds through March 31, 2026, and complete the associated liquidations through July 29, 2026. Any drawdowns during this extension period require approval from the U.S. Department of Education's (Department's) program office. New Jersey must email the Department's Office of State and Grantee Relations through the State's mailbox (New Jersey.OESE@ed.gov), detailing the amount of funds approved for late liquidation that the State requests to draw down.

Thank you for your work to implement the ARP ESSER program, including this request to help ensure that all possible resources are available to meet the academic and mental health needs of New Jersey's students and educators. If you have any questions about this approval, please contact the Department at New Jersey.OESE@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Laura Jimenez

Laura Jimenez
Director, State and Grantee Relations
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education

Cc: Kathleen Ehling, Assistant Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Education

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