

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

December 27, 2023

The Honorable Angelica Allen-McMillan Acting Commissioner of Education New Jersey Department of Education P.O. Box 500 Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

Dear Commissioner Allen-McMillan:

I am writing in response to New Jersey's November 2, 2023, request to the U.S. Department of Education (Department) to amend Section D of its approved American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) State plan. In its submission, the New Jersey Department of Education proposed expanding the list permissible uses of funds for grant programs the State implemented, using its ARP ESSER set-aside funds, to address the impact of lost instructional time on students. Additionally, New Jersey proposed amending Section D.4 (Emergency Needs) of its State plan; Department approval of these changes is not required.

Upon review, I have determined that the amended request continues to meet the ARP ESSER statutory and regulatory requirements and addresses all ARP ESSER State plan elements under Section D. Accordingly, I am approving New Jersey's amended ARP ESSER State plan. This letter, as well as New Jersey's revised ARP ESSER State plan, will be posted on the Department's website, <a href="here">here</a>. Any further requests to amend New Jersey's ARP ESSER State plan must be submitted to the Department for review and approval.

Thank you for the work New Jersey has invested in its ARP ESSER State plan. If you need any assistance regarding implementation of your plan, please contact your program officer at <a href="New Jersey.OESE@ed.gov">New Jersey.OESE@ed.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Adam Schott

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Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary Office of Elementary and Secondary Education