New Jersey Department of Education

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief II Fund (ESSER Ⅱ Fund) Technical Assistance Session

Goals for the Presentation

- Provide background on the ESSER Ⅱ Fund
- Discuss the allocation process
- Review the ESSER Ⅱ Fund application
- Discuss allowable uses of ESSER Ⅱ funds
- Review the monitoring/reporting requirements
- Provide best practices for utilizing available funding

Housekeeping

- Please remember to mute your electronic devices during the presentation.

- If you have questions regarding today's TA session, please leave them in the chat.

Background

Coronavirus Relief Funding Legislation

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)
  - Passed in March 2020
  - Created the Education Stabilization Fund
  - Funded the Elementary & Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) and the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA Act)
  - Passed in December 2020
  - Further funded ESSER and GEER
  - Created the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) Program

CRRSA Overview

Authorized additional funding for ESSER & GEER in December 2020 (ESSER Ⅱ and GEER Ⅱ)

$58 billion in additional funds to ESSER and GEER grantees

ESSER Ⅱ awards made January 5, 2021; GEER Ⅱ awards made January 8, 2021

Authorized new program as part of GEER: Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS)

ESSER II

- CRRSA provided an additional $54.3 billion to prepare, prevent & respond to COVID-19

- Same allowable uses as ESSER I but new legislation emphasizes use of funds to:
  - Address learning loss,
  - Prepare schools for reopening, and
  - Testing, repairing, and upgrading projects to improve air quality in school buildings.

- No requirement to provide equitable services.

ESSER Ⅱ Allocations (1 of 3)

- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Ⅱ Fund)
  - The SEA must allocate at least 90 percent of its total ESSER Fund grant by formula to LEAs.
  - SEA must determine each LEA's ESSER allocation in proportion to the amount of funds the LEA received under Title Ⅰ, A for the **most recent fiscal year.**
  - New Jersey received $1,230,971,757.

  Although this is the formula used to allocate the funds, the funds are **not** Title Ⅰ, A funds.

ESSER Ⅱ Allocations, (2 of 3)

- ESSER Ⅱ funds are available for obligation through September 30, 2023, which includes the Tydings period (General Education Provisions Act 421(b)(1)).

- The ESSER Ⅱ funds do **not** contain a supplanting prohibition. As a result, ESSER funds **may** take the place of State or local funds for allowable activities.

- However, the supplement not supplant requirements for other Federal programs have not been waived.

- LEAs that were not eligible for Title Ⅰ A for 2020-2021 will not receive an allocation from the 90% formula portion of ESSER Ⅱ.
    - This includes an LEA that refused Title Ⅰ, A funds.

- Similar to ESSER Ⅰ, funds will be made available to non-Title Ⅰ LEAs from the State set-aside.
    - Allocations for "non-Title Ⅰ LEAs" are available on the Department's website

ESSER Ⅱ Allocations, (3 of 3)

- In addition to the ESSER II formula allocations the Department is making funds available to all LEAs from the State set-aside.
  - $75 million for Learning Acceleration
  - $30 million for Mental Health Services
- These funds are being released as part of a consolidated ESSER II application.

Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

ESSER I	ESSER II
CARES Act, March 2020	CRRSA Act, December 2020
90% goes to LEAs (formula)	90% goes to LEAs (formula)
Funding period: March 13, 2020– September 30, 2022	Funding period: March 13, 2020– September 30, 2023
Use of Funds (12 allowable categories listed in the Act)	Use of Funds: Same as CARES Act, emphasis on learning loss, reopening schools and improving air quality
Equitable Services provided as in ESEA	No Equitable Services required.
Annual Performance Reports	Annual Performance Reports
Subject to monitoring by the SEA	Subject to monitoring by the SEA

GEER Ⅱ

- Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund

- Additional $4 billion to prepare for, prevent & respond to COVID-19

- $1.3 billion for additional GEER funds (GEER Ⅱ) and $2.75 billion for new program: Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools (EANS)

Monitoring

Monitoring: NJDOE Risk Assessment Tool will be modified to include the ESSER II Funds.

**New Jersey Department of Education
Collaborative Monitoring Risk Assessment Tool**

Risk Indicators

Indicator Variables[1]

1. Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability for ELA

Data Source: Performance Reports

	Category	Points
The LEA met the target or the goal for the proficiency rate	0	0 points
The LEA met the target or the goal within one standard deviation	1	2.5 points
The LEA did not meet the target or the goal for the proficiency rate	2	5 points

2. Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability for Math

Data Source: Performance Reports

	Category	Points
The LEA met the target or the goal for the proficiency rate	0	0 points
The LEA met the target or the goal within one standard deviation	1	2.5 points
The LEA did not meet the target or the goal for the proficiency rate	2	5 points

Monitoring, continued…

- As part of the learning acceleration grant application, LEAs will be required to certify that they will submit the required data to NJDOE.

- The data itself will not be collected via the grant application and submitting the data itself is not required to complete the application or to receive approval of the grant application; the data will be collected via a separate portal in NJ Homeroom.

- The NJDOE Risk Assessment Tool will be modified to include an indicator which aligns with the new interim assessment data collection requirement.

- Depending on the LEAs aggregate risk score across all indicators in the risk assessment tool, the LEA will receive onsite monitoring, desk monitoring, or universal technical assistance.

Annual Performance Report

Purpose of the CARES Act Performance Report

- The United States Department of Education (USDE) created an online transparency portal which shows how states, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) are using the CARES Act funds.

- The portal captures awards and expenditures and provides an interactive data map.

- Data collected through the CARES Act Performance Report will be submitted to the USDE as part of the State's ongoing obligation to report data under the CARES Act.

- It is critical that the Performance Report is completed so that data for New Jersey is reported accurately on the USDE website.

Districts Required to Submit the Report

- All districts that receive CARES Act Funds and CRRSA Act Funds must complete and submit the annual performance reports.

- Next report(s) will be released in early October.

nj.gov/education/covid19/boardops/

NJDOE Website

[Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations](#)

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II (ESSER II)

On December 27, 2020, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSA Act), Public Law 116-260, was signed into law and provided an additional $54.3 billion nationwide for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II Fund).

The purpose of the additional funding is to provide direct money to LEAs to assist in safely reopening schools, measuring and effectively addressing significant learning loss, and taking other actions to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on educators, students, and families. Allowable uses include all possible expenditures under CARES ESSER I.

CRRSA Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II (ESSER II)

Overview ⌄

Projected SEA and LEA Allocations ⌄

Allowable Uses of Funds for LEAs ⌄

Equitable Services under CRRSA ESSER II ⌄

Period of Grant Funding ⌄

Supplement not Supplant ⌄

Maintenance of Effort ⌄

Apply For

ESSER Funds
Application available March 15, 2021

Resources

ESSER II Quick Facts

Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR)

Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG)

Email questions to:

TitleOne@doe.nj.gov

ESSER Ⅱ Fund Application

CRSSA Consolidated

Applicant: 01 0010 ABSECON CITY - Atlantic
Application: CRRSA Consolidated - 00-
Cycle: Original Application

Project Period: 7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021

Application Sections **CRRSA Consolidated**
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Click to Return to Menu List / Sign

Overview	Contact Information	Allocations	Needs	Certification	Assurances	Submit	Application History	Application Print

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSA)

Coronavirus Response and Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSA)
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II)

The funds for this grant cycle MUST be encumbered by June 30, 2021. Remaining funds may be carried over into the next fiscal year for a complete period of availability through Sept. 30, 2023.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021, Public Law 116-260, enacted on December 27, 2020, appropriated 90% of New Jersey's ESSER II allocation to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) based on the LEA's share of Title I-A funds in the 2020-2021 school year. In addition to this mandatory subgrant to LEAs, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) will use State set-aside funds to provide three additional non-competitive grant funding streams.

In sum, the NJDOE's administration of ESSER II funds includes four funding stream for LEAs:

1. Mandatory subgrants to LEAs based on the LEA's share of Title I-A funds in the 20-21 school year.
2. Learning Acceleration Grants, funded by State set-aside, based on the LEA's share of Title I-A funds in the 20-21 school year, with a minimum allocation of $25,000.
3. Mental Health Grants, funded by State set-aside, based on LEA's enrollment as of October 15, 2019, with a minimum allocation of $45,000.
4. Non-Title I Grants, funded by State set aside: Grants for entities that do not receive mandatory subgrants. This includes non-Title I LEAs, CSSSDs, ESCs, Jointure Commissions, Department of Children and Families, Juvenile Justice Commission, Department of Corrections, and Juvenile Detention Centers.

Applicants will submit one CRRSA ESSER II Fund Consolidated Application that includes all applicable streams. The application includes five sections: one section in which the LEA will submit information relevant to all four streams (e.g., the LEA's needs assessment), and a section for each individual stream with more stream-specific information.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, or CRSSA, application is a consolidated application. Once you have created the application in EWEG you will automatically see the overview tab. This gives a brief description of the act and important information regarding the ESSER II funds. You will move through the tabs to complete the application.

Allocations

	CRRSA-ESSER II	Learning Acceleration	Mental Health	Non-Title I
Allocation	684684	43940	45000	
Part A Neglected	0			
Nonpublic Allocation				
ReAllocated Curr Year(+)	0	0	0	
ReAllocated Prior Year (+)	0	0	0	
Release (-)	0	0	0	
Total	684684	43940	45000	
Carryover	0	0	0	
Consortium				
Funds Received	0	0	0	
Funds Contributed	0	0	0	
Applicant LEA/Member				
Total Adjusted	684684	43940	45000	
Transfers:				
Available for Transfer				
From Non-Title I	0			
Total Available	684684	43940	45000	
	CRRSA-ESSER II	Learning Acceleration	Mental Health	Non-Title I

The allocations tab will provide you with your LEA's award for each of the funds in this consolidated application, including ESSERIⅡ, Learning Acceleration and Mental Health.

Needs (Identify up to 10)

Overview	Contact Information	Allocations	Needs	Certification	Assurances	Submit	Application History	Appl P

Identify Needs 1-2	Identify Needs 3-4	Identify Needs 5-6	Identify Needs 7-8	Identify Needs 9-10

Identify Needs 1 and 2

Identify Need 1 (75 maximum characters)

a. Description of Need (0 of 1000 maximum characters used)

b. Funding Sources
☐ CRRSA - ESSER II or Non-Title I
☐ Learning Acceleration
☐ Mental Health

c. Identify qualitative and quantitative data sources used to determine the need(s)(0 of 1000 maximum characters used)

d. Root Cause(s) of selected need(s)(0 of 1000 maximum characters used)

It is important that note that you must identify at least 1 (one) need and identify the funding source you intend to use to address that need. The funding source must correspond with your budget. Remember to hit the save button at the bottom of each screen or your work will not be saved.

Certification

Overview	Contact Information	Allocations	Needs	Certification	Assurances	Submit	Application History	Application Print

Certification

☐ LEAs shall submit data and reports in accordance with all grant program rules, requirements, and timelines, specifically the interim assessment data described in the NJDOE February 25, 2021, Spring Assessment Data Collection Broadcast by April 16, 2021. The interim assessment data shall be captured from assessments administered between November 16, 2020, and February 19, 2021. LEAs shall ensure the Learning Acceleration Needs Assessment and explanation of priorities within the application are directly tied to the submitted interim assessment data.

Save Page

You will be required to review and certify that you will submit data and reports in accordance with all grant program rules, requirements, and timelines, specifically the interim assessment data described in the NJDOE February 25, 2021, Spring Assessment Data Collection Broadcast by April 16, 2021. The interim assessment data shall be captured from assessments administered between November 16, 2020, and February 19, 2021. And that you will ensure the Learning Acceleration Needs Assessment and explanation of priorities within the application are directly tied to the submitted interim assessment data.

Assurances

Assurances

☐ **By checking this box and saving the page, the applicant hereby certifies that he/she has read, understood and will comply with the assurances listed below.**

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (ESSER II)

Grant Award Notifications for the Supplemental Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) Fund awards, as authorized in section 313 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

Part A: Programmatic, Fiscal, and Reporting Assurances

By the State educational agency's (SEA's) drawdown of funds under this GAN, the Chief State School Officer assures the following with respect to the ESSER II Funds awards:

1. The SEA will allocate no less than 90 percent of the grant funds under this program to local educational agencies (LEAs) (including charter schools that are LEAs) in the State to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The SEA will allocate these funds to LEAs on the basis of their respective shares of funds received under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in fiscal year 2020.

2. The SEA will use the remaining funds (hereafter SEA reserve) for emergency needs as determined by the SEA to address issues related to COVID-19, which may be addressed through the use of grants or contracts or for direct use by the SEA. From an SEA's reserve, the SEA may use not more than 1/2 of 1 percent of the SEA's total ESSER II grant for administrative costs.

3. The SEA will ensure that LEAs use ESSER II funds for activities allowable under section 313(d) of Division M of the CRRSA Act. The Department generally does not consider the following to be an allowable use of ESSER II funds, under any part of section 313: 1) subsidizing or offsetting executive salaries and benefits of individuals who are not employees of the SEA or LEAs or 2) expenditures related to state or local teacher or faculty unions or associations.

4. The SEA will comply with the maintenance of effort provision in section 317(a) of Division M of the CRRSA Act absent a waiver by the Secretary pursuant to section 317(b) thereof.

5. The SEA, each LEA, and any other entity that receives ESSER II funds will, to the greatest extent practicable, continue to compensate its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to COVID-19 in compliance with section 315 of Division M of the CRRSA Act. In addition, each entity that accepts funds will continue to pay employees and contractors to the greatest extent practicable based on the unique financial circumstances of the entity. ESSER II funds generally will not be used for bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenditures, unless related to disruptions or closures resulting from COVID19.

6. The SEA will provide technical assistance, when applicable, to LEAs on the use of ESSER II funds for measuring and addressing learning loss and reopening schools safely, as well as for remote or hybrid learning, which includes both distance education as defined in section 103(7) of the HEA and distance learning as defined in ESEA section 8101(14).

You will also have to certify that you have read and understood the 16 assurances as described on this tab.

Application Section: CRSSA-ESSER Ⅱ (1 of 3)

Allocation Detail		Allowable Uses		Budget		District Comments

Allowable Uses

Use of Funds: A local educational agency that receives funds under this title may use the funds for any of the following:

☐ 1. Any activity authorized by the ESEA of 1965, including the Native Hawaiian Education Act and the Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act (20 6301 et seq.), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) ("IDEA"), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) ("the Perkins Act"), or subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance A U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).

☐ 2. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevar agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

☐ 3. Providing principals and others school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.

☐ 4. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experienc homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.

☐ 5. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.

☐ 6. Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.

Once you have completed the relevant tabs in the consolidated section, you will move on to the application section (located at the top right-hand corner of each screen) for CRSSA-ESSER Ⅱ. Here you will find a tab with your LEA's allocation detail, allowable uses, budget and a tab doe district comments. As you can see on this slide there are a several allowable uses that you will need to identify. In total, there are 15 on the screen to choose from.

Application Section:
CRSSA-ESSER Ⅱ (2 of 3)

Allocation Detail	Allowable Uses	Budget	District Comments
Budget Summary	100 Instruction	200 Support Services	400 Equipment	Indirect Costs/Admin Costs

Budget Summary   Instruction

Function / Object	Expenditure Category	Public Amount	Total Amount
100	**Instruction**		
100-100	Salaries	$0	$0
100-300	Purchased Services	$0	$0
100-500	Other Purchased Services	$0	$0
100-600	Instructional Supplies	$0	$0
100-800	Other Objects	$0	$0
200	**Support Services**		
200-100	Salaries	$0	$0
200-200	Benefits	$0	$0
200-300	Prof and Tech Services	$0	$0
200-400	Purchased Property Services	$0	$0
200-500	Other Purchased Services	$0	$0
200-600	Supplies and Materials	$0	$0
200-800	Other Objects	$0	$0
200-860	Indirect Cost Approved Rate 4.48200% Derived Rate 0%	$0	$0
400	**Fac. Acq. and Construction Ser.**		
400-720	Building	$0	$0

The budget tab will allow you to budget the funds according to function and object code.

Application Section: CRSSA-ESSER II (3 of 3)

Allocation Detail	Allowable Uses	Budget	District Comments

District Comments

District Comments (0 of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District Comments tab is optional.

Application Section: Learning Acceleration (1 of 2)

Applicant: 01 0010 ABSECON CITY - Atlantic
Application: CRRSA Consolidated - 00-
Cycle: Original Application

Project Period: 7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021

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Allocation Detail	Use of Funds	Budget	District Comments

Use of Funds

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will be required to dedicate 75% of their Learning Acceleration grant to academic enrichment for students and the remaining 25% to supporting the learning ecosystem for pre-K through grade 12 instruction.

Of the portion dedicated to academic enrichment for students, districts will be required to spend 75% on STEM-related activities and experiences, as well as spend 25% on activities and experiences related to literacy and the arts. All of those funds must be used to provide extended, accelerated learning opportunities to students in Summer Learning Academies, School Year Learning Acceleration Academies, or 1:1 Tutoring. Interventions, tutoring, enrichment, and any out-of-school learning opportunity must include accommodations and modifications necessary for the participation of students with disabilities up through age 21 and English learners.

The 25% dedicated to supporting the learning ecosystem may be spent on programs focused on building a growth mindset in students, professional learning for educators on accelerated instruction and enhancing effective utilization of formative assessments, and engagement with parents and caregivers through a multi-tiered system of support.

All ESSER-funded activities must be necessary to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19.

Under the Learning Acceleration Grant, LEAs must concentrate federal funding to ensure their students are provided extended learning opportunities so they may accelerate their learning throughout the coming years. This grant should be used to ensure all students have equitable access to high-quality, standards based extended learning, particularly in the areas of STEM, English language arts (ELA) and Visual arts. Additional funding focuses resources on building students' growth mindsets, educator professional learning in accelerated instruction, and engagement with parents and care givers through a multi-tiered system of support.

Academic Enrichment for Students (75% of the Allocation)

Allowable Programs

The allowable programs below apply to accelerating learning in STEM (sub-allotment of 75%) and literacy/ELA and the arts (sub-allotment of 25%).

List of Allowable Programs for Academic Enrichment:

- ☐ **Summer Learning Academies:** Providing struggling students with small-group instruction delivered by highly effective teachers over the summer. These academies may be conducted virtually or in-person.
- ☐ **School Year Learning Acceleration Academies:** Providing struggling students with small courses of small-group instruction (e.g., one week during a break) delivered by highly effective teachers during the school year. This could include instructional time before-school, after-school, weekends, and during breaks.
- ☐ **1:1 Tutoring:** Providing struggling students with one-on-one tutoring directly aligned to classroom content to support interventions linked to the district's multi-tiered system of support.

Once the CRSSA-ESSR II funds are budgeted you will move on to the Learning Acceleration section.

Application Section:
Learning Acceleration (2 of 2)

Note:
Interventions, tutoring, enrichment, and any out-of-school learning opportunity must include accommodations and modifications necessary for the participation of students with disabilities up through age 21 and English learners. Additionally, the Interventions must be connected to the New Jersey Learning Standards.

A. Describe your proposed STEM-related enrichment initiative from the list of allowable programs, including a brief description of the proposed programs to be used and the student groups to be served. Include the descriptions outlined below. (75% of sub-allocation)
(0 of 1000 maximum characters used)

Check the Applicable Content Area for the initiative
☐ Chemistry
☐ Physics
☐ Biology
☐ Earth Systems
☐ Environmental Science
☐ Technology
☐ Robotics
☐ Computer Science
☐ Engineering
☐ Mathematics

B. Describe your proposed literacy/ELA and the arts enrichment initiative from the list of allowable programs, including a brief descriptions of the proposed programs to be used and the student groups to be served. Include the descriptions outlined below. (Remainder of sub-allocation up to 25%)
(0 of 1000 maximum characters used)

Check the applicable content area for the initiative.
☐ Literacy / English Language Arts
☐ Visual Arts
☐ Performing Arts

Learning Ecosystem (25% of Grant Allocation)
Allowable programs:
The allowable uses below apply to supporting the Learning Ecosystem:
☐ Supporting students in developing a growth mindset: Providing students with evidence-based strategies to develop coping skills around challenge, difficulty, and perseverance, including but not limited to curricular materials and programming, assemblies, and professional learning for P-12 educators aligned with this focus.
☐ Professional learning for PK-12 educators focused on strategies for accelerated instruction and learning, including in and out of district professional development opportunities, including for the effective use of formative assessment, and extended time for professional learning communities.
☐ Engagement with parents and caregivers through a multi-tiered system of supports, including but not limited to opportunities to support students' growth mindsets, and other resources to support family, school, community partnerships to targeting interventions for struggling and at-risk students.
Describe your proposed Learning Ecosystem initiative from the list of allowable programs.
(0 of 1000 maximum characters used)

Once the CRSSA-ESSR II funds are budgeted, move on to the Learning Acceleration section.

Application Section: Mental Health

Next is the Mental Health Section.

Application Section: Non-Title I

Allocation Detail	Allowable Uses	Budget	District Comments

Allowable Uses

Use of Funds: A local educational agency that receives funds under this title may use the funds for any of the following:

☐ 1. Any activity authorized by the ESEA of 1965, including the Native Hawaiian Education Act and the Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) ("IDEA"), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) ("the Perkins Act"), or subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).

☐ 2. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

☐ 3. Providing principals and others school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.

☐ 4. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.

☐ 5. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.

☐ 6. Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.

☐ 7. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.

If you are a Non-Title I district, you will complete this section and not the CRSSA-ESSER II section of the application.

Allowable Uses

Allowable Uses (1 of 7)

- LEAs may use funds for **any activity authorized** by:
  - ESEA
  - IDEA
  - The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act
  - Perkins
  - McKinney-Vento

In addition to these broad uses, funds may be used for…

- **Note:** These fund are **not** subject to a supplement not supplant requirement.

Allowable Uses (2 of 7)

- Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

- Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.

- Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies

- Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency.

- Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and services delivery will meet the needs of each population.

- Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including for how to provide meals to eligible students, how to provide technology for online learning to all students, how to provide guidance for carrying out requirements under the IDEA and how to ensure other educational services can continue to be provided with all Federal, State and local requirements.

Allowable Uses (4 of 7)

- Training and professional development for staff of the LEA on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.

- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local education agency, including buildings operated by such agency.

- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the LEA that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.

- Providing mental health services and supports.

Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.

Allowable Uses (6 of 7)

Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness and children and youth in foster care, of the local educational agency, including by –

- Administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students' academic progress and assist educators in meeting students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction.
- Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students.
- Providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment.

Allowable Uses (7 of 7)

- School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.

- Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.

Non-allowable Uses

- Subsidizing or offsetting executive salaries and benefits of individuals not employed by the SEA or LEA.

- Expenditures related to state or local teacher or faculty unions or associations.

- Bonuses, merit pay, or similar expenditures, unless related to disruptions or closures resulting from COVID-19.

The Power of the Process Identify Needs for Planning

Needs Assessment Process

- Foundation for use of ESSER funds

- Determine needs and set priorities for future action

- Expenditures not supported by comprehensive needs assessment are not "necessary, reasonable, and allocable" [Uniform Grant Guidance – 2 C.F.R. Part 200]

The Continuous Improvement Cycle
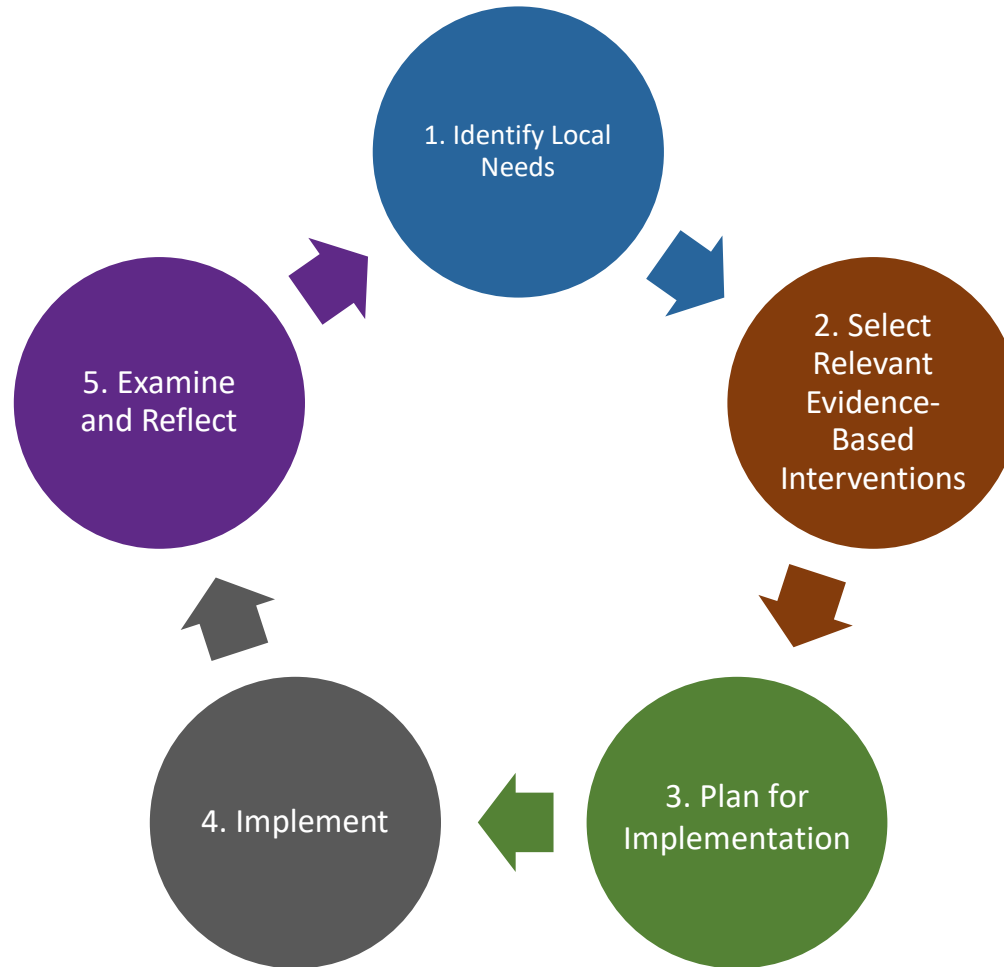
Source: USED State Support Network. (2018). *Needs assessment guidebook: Supporting the development of district and school needs assessments.* Washington, DC: American Institutes for Research. Retrieved from https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/10/needsassessmentguidebook-508_003.pdf

Phases of Needs Assessment Implementation

Plan → Identify, Collect and Analyze Data → Interpret Information → Determine Priorities → Connect to Implementation

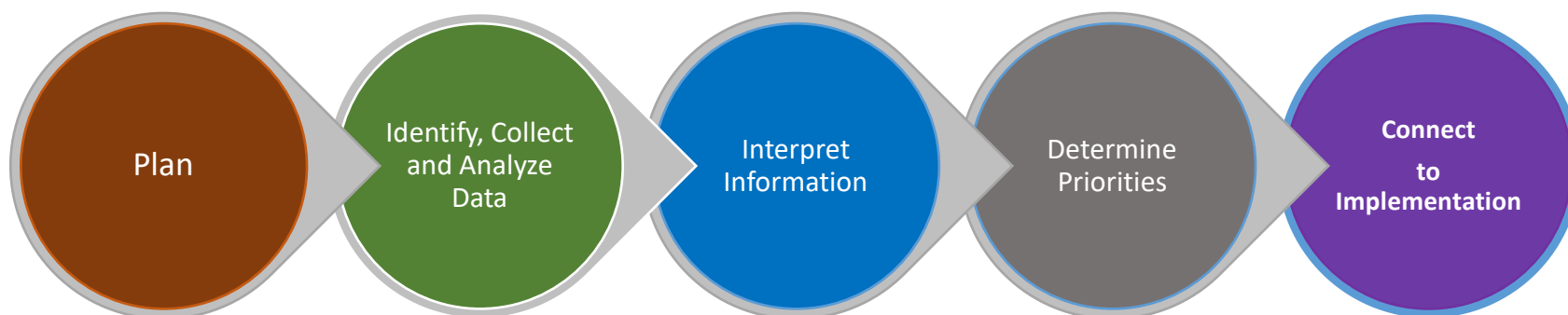Source: *USED State Support Network. (2018). Needs assessment guidebook: Supporting the development of district and school needs assessments.* Washington, DC: American Institutes for Research. Retrieved from https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/10/needsassessmentguidebook-508_003.pdf

Identify Data Sources

Types of Data

- Student Achievement
- School Climate & Culture
- Student Attendance
- College & Career Readiness
- Family & Community Engagement Activities
- School Operations & Management
- Professional Development
- Teacher Readiness & Qualifications
- School Schedules/Course Offerings
- Perceptions/Expectations

Sources of Data

- Surveys
- Focus Groups
- State & Local Assessments
- Lesson Plans & Student Work
- Curriculum & Assessment
- Materials
- Observations Reports

Mental Health Allocation

Purpose:

To increase access to school-based mental health supports and services for students as well as offer supports for educators.

To support school districts to build a tiered intervention model of comprehensive school-based mental health supports and services that is sustainable after the life of the grant.

Mental Health Allocation:

LEAs must:

- Allocate a **minimum of 10%** of the funds towards mental health supports and services professional development for educators

- Allocate remaining funds (90% or less) to mental health supports and services

Professional Development 10%

Mental Health Supports and Services 90%
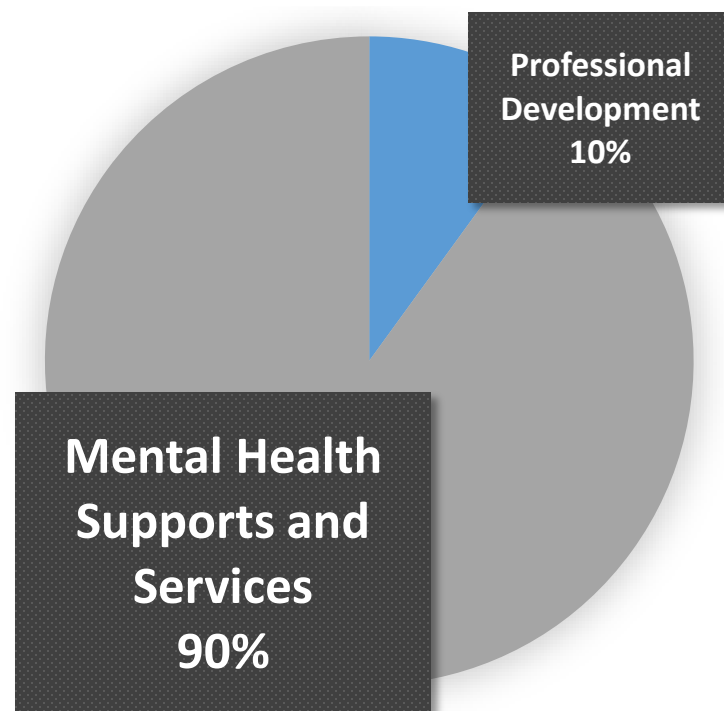
Every LEA will get minimum of $45,000 allocation for mental health. This is seed money to develop new or enhance existing mental health supports and services and related PD within one or across multiple tiers.
Tier 1 universal prevention, Tier 2 secondary intervention - at-risk, Tier 3 intensive intervention

Mental Health Allowable Uses

Professional Development	Mental Health Supports & Services
• (Minimum of 10%)	• (No more than 90%)
• Must be related to identified need(s).	• Must be related to identified need(s) and designed to build or enhance a tiered intervention model of mental health supports.
	• Should be sustainable
	• Must include accommodations and modifications necessary for the participation of students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged and homeless.

Connect Plan to Your Needs Assessment

- Does your plan for mental health supports & services address an identified need?

- Does your plan for mental health professional development address an identified need?

- Does your plan demonstrate that the actions will be sustainable after the life of the grant?

- Does the project description connect to the budget?

Examples of Strategies for Identified Needs: Tier **I**

- Implement the Pyramid Model to support the social-emotional development of preschool students

- Develop, implement, and/or enhance a system for conducting regular mental health check-ins with students

- Contract with a provider to offer faculty/staff well-being support groups

- Provide workshops for families to support social emotional well-being of students at home

Examples of Strategies for Identified Needs: Tier II

- Designate certificated staff and/or contracted provider to assess students who show signs of mental health concerns, including trauma

- Provide certificated staff for home visits to follow-up on students who are identified through early-warning systems

- Create partnerships with appropriate mental health providers to perform risk assessments for students in crisis to reduce or eliminate the use of emergency room visits for students with mental health needs and to directly link the student(s) to appropriate community-based services

Examples of Strategies for Identified Needs: Tier **III**

- Contract with a mental health provider to provide individual and group therapeutic services to identified students

- Contract with community agencies to provide family therapy and support to identified students

- Identify district mental health staff to provide summer gap services (i.e., individual, group, and/or family therapy)

Examples of Strategies for Identified Needs: Professional Development

- Access training in schoolwide (Tier 1) programs to address mental health literacy, positive school climate, positive discipline and behavior practices, trauma-informed practices, cultural competency, and/or social emotional learning

- Provide more intensive training to educators in methods to identify students exhibiting signs of depression or suicidality across in-person, remote, and hybrid settings

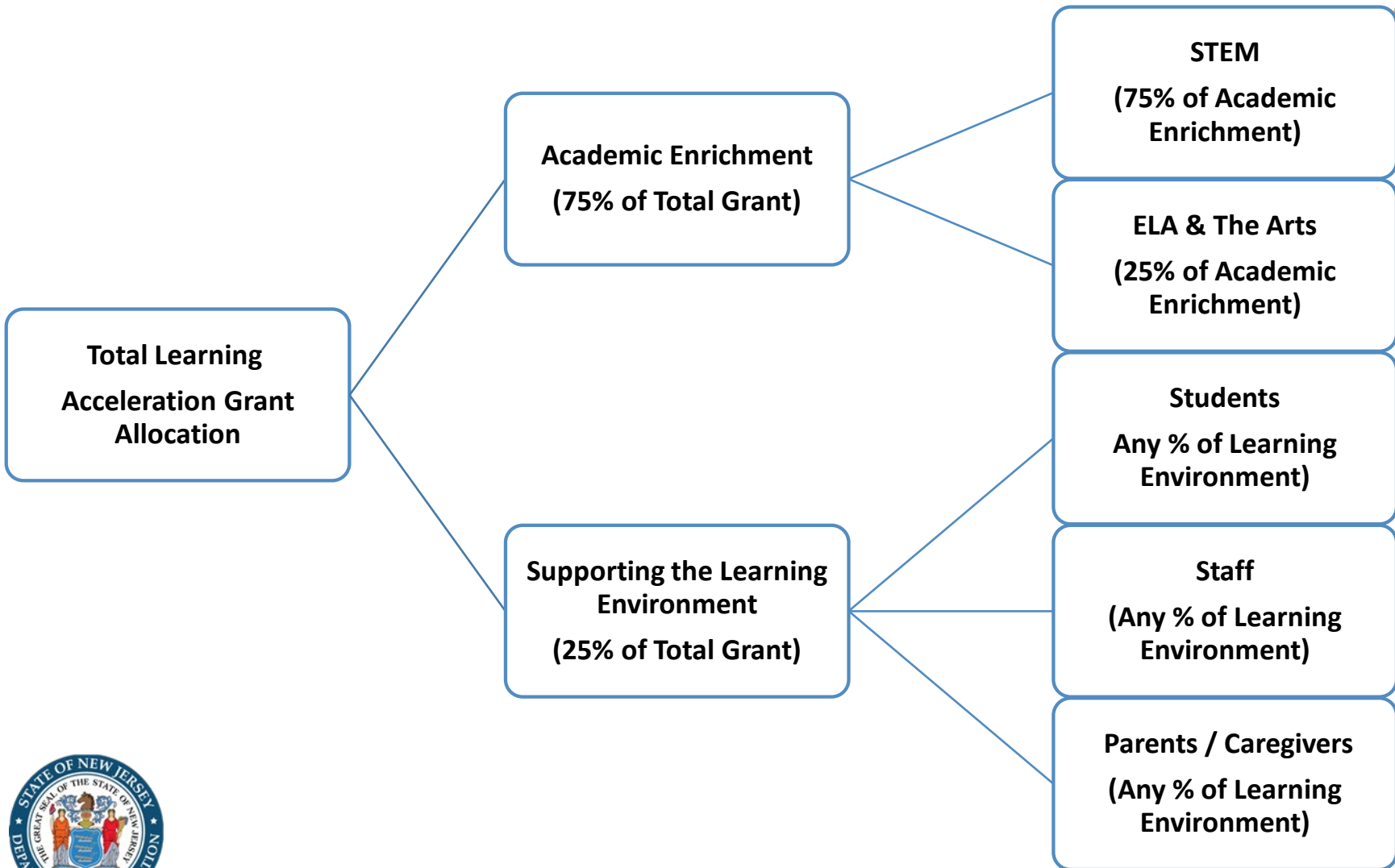# Sample Scenario for Using ESSER Ⅱ Funds: "Riverview Summer Learning Academy"

ESSER Ⅱ Allocation: $100,000	Mental Health Allocation $45,000	Learning Acceleration Allocation: $55,000
Use $50,000 of ESSER II to: • Purchase supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of school buildings for summer program. • Install materials in classrooms to ensure social distancing • Fund building services staff position to perform weekly deep cleaning	**Mental Health Allocation $45,000** • Contract with specialist to provide art therapy to students • Contract with a mental health provider to facilitate individual and group therapeutic services to identified students • Provide professional development to educators to identify students exhibiting signs of depression or suicidality	**Learning Acceleration Allocation: $55,000** • Use $25,000 of ESSER II & $55,000 of LA to: • Use 75% of LA Allocation for Student Academic Enrichment: Provide small group instruction for STEM (75%) and ELA and/or The Arts (25%) • Use 25% of LA Allocation for Supporting the Learning Ecosystem via PD in Accelerated learning for Teachers and Seminar on the district's tiered supports • Use ESSER II Funds to bolster or extend any intervention above

Learning Acceleration Allocation

Allowable Uses of the Learning Acceleration Grant

Total Learning Acceleration Grant Allocation

Academic Enrichment (75% of Total Grant)

STEM (75% of Academic Enrichment)

ELA & The Arts (25% of Academic Enrichment)

Supporting the Learning Environment (25% of Total Grant)

Students Any % of Learning Environment)

Staff (Any % of Learning Environment)

Parents / Caregivers (Any % of Learning Environment)

Allowable Uses: Academic Enrichment

(75% of Total Grant)

Extended learning opportunities must focus on STEM, ELA and the Arts in the following way:

STEM	ELA and the Arts
• Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Earth Systems, Environmental Science, Technology, Computer Science, Engineering, and Mathematics • Aligned with relevant standards cited as NJSLS-S or NJSLS-M	• English Language Arts, Visual Arts, and Performing Arts • Aligned with relevant standards cited as NJSLS-ELA or NJSLS-VPA

Academic Enrichment Disciplinary Sub-allocations

ELA The Arts 25%

STEM 75%
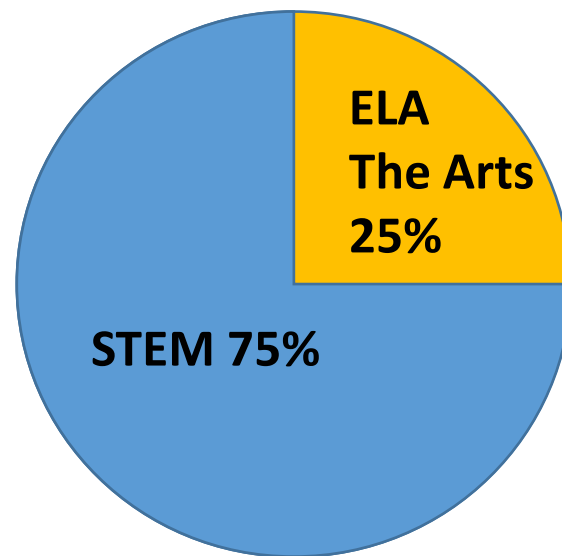
Allowable Uses: Academic Enrichment

(75% of Total Allocation)

Summer Learning Academies

Providing struggling students with small-group instruction delivered by highly effective teachers over the summer. These academies may be conducted virtually or in-person.

School Year Extended Accelerated Learning

Providing struggling students with small courses of small-group instruction (e.g., one week during a break) delivered by highly effective teachers during the school year. This could include instructional time before-school, after-school, weekends, and during breaks.

1:1 Tutoring

Providing one-on-one tutoring directly aligned to classroom content to support interventions linked to the district's multi-tiered system of support.

Allowable Uses: Supporting The Learning Ecosystem (1 of 3)

(25% of Total Allocation)

Student

Providing and facilitating activities to support students in developing a growth mindset by giving students evidence-based strategies to develop coping skills around challenge, difficulty, and perseverance.

Examples may include, but are not limited to, developing or purchasing curricular materials and programming, convening in-person or virtual assemblies, and professional learning for P–12 educators aligned with this focus.

Allowable Uses: Supporting The Learning Ecosystem (2 of 3)

(25% of Total Allocation)

Staff

Providing professional learning for P–12 educators focused on strategies for accelerated instruction and learning, including how use extended day instructional time to support student learning on the most critical skills needed to master grade and course content or how to design and enhance formative assessments to inform instruction.

Examples may include, but are not limited to, providing in and/or out of district professional learning, staffing coverage and extended time for professional learning communities.

Allowable Uses: Supporting The Learning Ecosystem (3 of 3)

(25% of Total Allocation)

Parents & Families

Providing education and training programs for parents and care givers regarding ways a student's family can help ensure students have access to a high-quality multi-tiered system of supports.

This might include, for example, providing families:

- Information on how districts monitor students' progress and make decisions regarding the services and interventions students receive.

- Education and training programs for parents and care givers in supporting their children's development of a growth mindset.

- Education and training programs for parents and care givers in understanding grade level expectations and standards.

Sample Scenario For Using ESSER II Funds: "Riverview Summer Learning Academy"

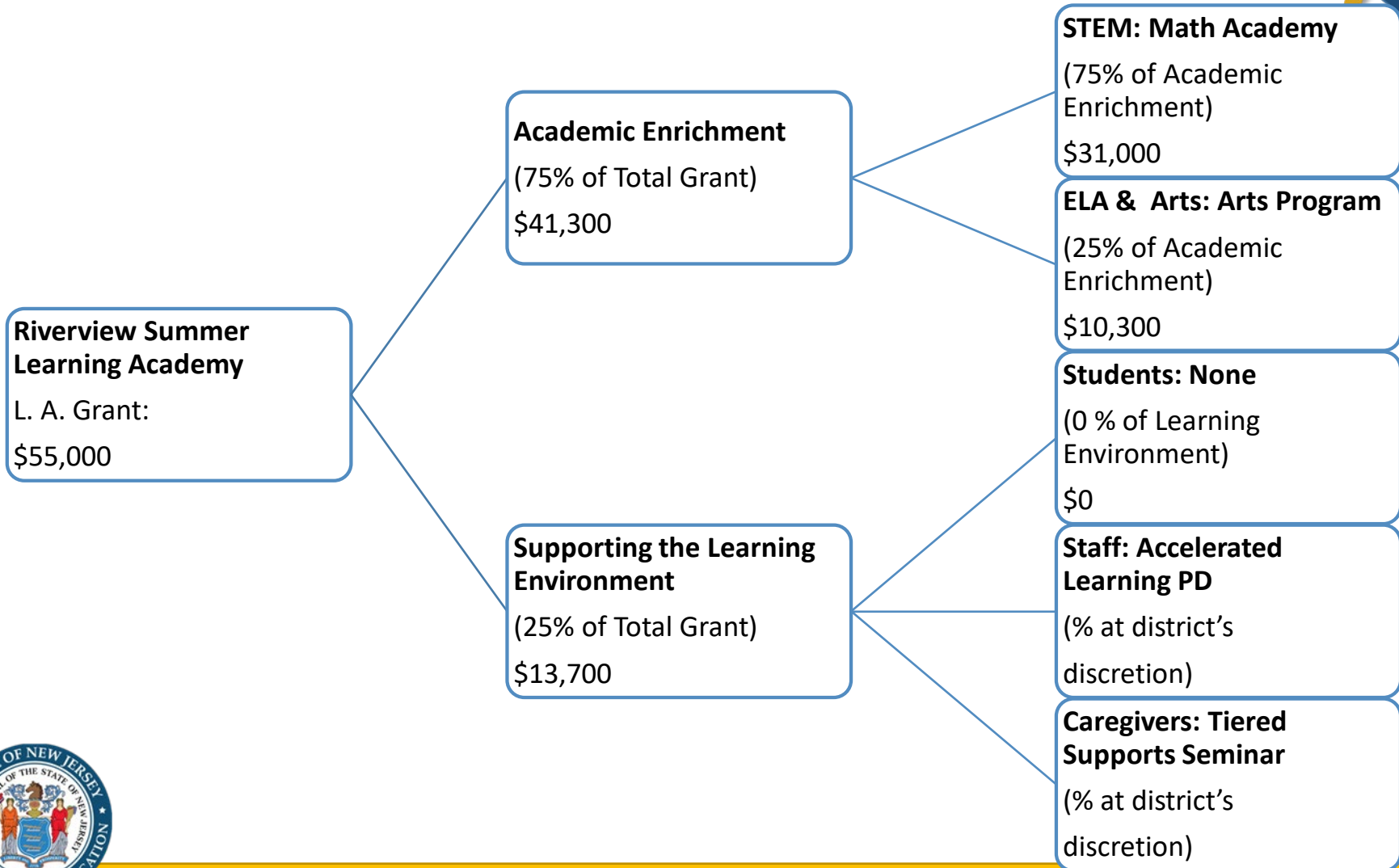| ESSER II Allocation: $100,000	Mental Health Allocation $45,000	Learning Acceleration Allocation: $55,000
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Sample Learning Acceleration Plan & Budget

Learning Acceleration	Sample Plan	$55K Grant in Total Allocation	$55K Budget in Suballocations
Academic Enrichment for Students (75% of Total Allocation) **Activities:** **STEM-related** (75% Suballocation) **ELA and The Arts** (25% Suballocation)	**STEM-related:** Riverview Summer Math Academy **ELA and The Arts:** Riverview Summer Arts Program	**$41.3k** (75% of Total Allocation)	**$31.0k** (75% Suballocation) **$10.3k** (25% Suballocation)
Supporting the Learning Ecosystem (25% of Total Allocation) **Stakeholders:** Students, Staff, and or Caregivers	**Staff:** PD in strategies for accelerated learning **Caregivers:** Seminar on the district's tiered supports	**$13.7k** (25% of Total Allocation)	**Suballocation at district's discretion**

Sample Plan In The Learning Acceleration Framework

Riverview Summer Learning Academy

L. A. Grant:

$55,000

Academic Enrichment

(75% of Total Grant)

$41,300

Supporting the Learning Environment

(25% of Total Grant)

$13,700

STEM: Math Academy

(75% of Academic Enrichment)

$31,000

ELA & Arts: Arts Program

(25% of Academic Enrichment)

$10,300

Students: None

(0 % of Learning Environment)

$0

Staff: Accelerated Learning PD

(% at district's discretion)

Caregivers: Tiered Supports Seminar

(% at district's discretion)

Thank You!

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nj.gov/education

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