

ARP ESSER Plan



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Table of Contents

Introduction _____	3
ARP ESSER Budget Overview _____	4
Total Amount of LEA Award _____	4
Required 20 Percent for Learning Loss _____	4
Funds for Prevention and Mitigation Strategies _____	4
ARP ESSER High Level Budget _____	5
Activities to Address Learning Loss _____	6
ARP ESSER Learning Loss Requirements _____	6
Academic Recovery Plan - English Language Arts _____	6
Academic Recovery Plan - Mathematics _____	6
Academic Recovery Plan - Social, Emotional, Behavioral and Mental Health _____	6
Academic Recovery Plan - Other Activities _____	6
Activities for other ARP ESSER Funds _____	7
Activities authorized under the ESEA, the IDEA, the AEFLA, and the Perkins Act _____	7
Coordination, preparedness, and response efforts _____	7
Activities to address unique needs of specific students _____	7
Improving preparedness and response efforts _____	8
Training and professional development on sanitation _____	8
Supplies to sanitize and clean facilities _____	8
Planning, coordinating, and implementing school closures _____	8
Educational technology _____	9
Mental health services and supports _____	9
Planning and implementing summer learning and afterschool programs _____	9
Addressing learning loss among students _____	9
School facility repairs and improvements _____	10
Improving indoor air quality _____	10
Developing and implementing public health protocols _____	10
Other activities to maintain operation and continuity of services _____	10
Evaluation and Review _____	11
Consultation and Public Input _____	12
Assurances _____	13

Introduction

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law. In it, the U.S. Department of Education is providing an additional \$121.9 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER Fund). This legislation awards grants to state educational agencies (SEAs) for providing local educational agencies (LEAs, i.e., school districts) with emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

South Carolina will receive \$2,112,051,487 in ARP ESSER funds from the ARP Act, with 90 percent being awarded to LEAs with amounts determined in proportion to the amount of Title I, Part A funds they received in summer 2020. The remaining funds to South Carolina will be used for state-level activities to address issues caused by COVID-19.



This plan describes how the LEA will use funds that it is awarded under the ARP ESSER program. This report template complies with all reporting requirements of the ARP Act (Public Law 117-2), the [ARP ESSER grant](#) terms, conditions, and assurances (CFDA Number 84.425U), and the interim final rule established by the U.S. Department of Education, [86 FR 21195](#).

ARP ESSER Budget Overview

Total Amount of LEA Award

\$22,412,010.00

Required 20 Percent for Learning Loss

\$4,482,402.00

Funds for Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

In the text field below, describe the extent to which and how the LEA will use funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning.

(Click box to scroll)

In order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning, the LEA will utilize three levels of prevention and mitigation strategies.

Level 1- will be focused around cleaning and sanitizing. Daily the school district will clean facilities and buses with a solution that kills the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19). Additionally, the district will hydrostatic spray buildings, classrooms, and hallways. Hand sanitizer will be available in all entrances, bathrooms, and cafeterias. Level 2- The district will continue to utilize it's thermal imaging temperature check system (FEEVR) to screen visitors and students for elevated body temperatures before entering the school buildings. Level 3- Plexiglass will be available for use in classrooms if deemed necessary due to community spread or parent request.

The Kershaw County School District will continue to monitor and contact trace students and staff who have contracted COVID-19 and or placed in quarantine due to close contact.

In addition, after a review of the costs associated with COVID-19 from March 2020 forward and assessing the impact COVID-19 and virtual education has had on the Kershaw County School District, we were able to estimate the costs of recovery over the next 36 months. These costs include the following: additional technology resources for teachers and students, capital improvements to school facilities to provide additional educational space if needed, additional nurse and mental health support for our students, additional PPE as needed for the safety of our students and staff, modernization of business processes to allow the District to continue normal operations, even during an emergency situation; and hiring interventionists, funding tutoring, and hosting summer camps for our students who have experienced learning loss during the pandemic. The above costs are tremendous and the ESSER III allotment will allow our District to sufficiently meet the additional challenges presented by COVID-19 while still maintaining normal operations. The items requested in this grant are for all students and staff members. Kershaw County School District does not

ARP ESSER High Level Budget

Note: The total amounts below must match the LEA's ARP ESSER Budget that details expenditures by allowable activity. A description of the ARP ESSER allowable activities are online on the [ARP Act ESSER Spending Categories webpage](#).

ARP ESSER Allowable Activity	Budgeted Amount
Learning Loss (20% required)	\$4,995,928.17
Activities authorized under the ESEA, the IDEA, the AEFLA, and the Perkins Act	\$0.00
Coordination, preparedness, and response efforts	\$66,295.28
Activities to address unique needs of specific students	\$172,874.85
Improving preparedness and response efforts	\$74,896.58
Training and professional development on sanitation	\$0.00
Supplies to sanitize and clean facilities	\$3,872,104.62
Planning, coordinating, and implementing school closures	\$0.00
Educational technology	\$2,307,451.50
Mental health services and supports	\$790,195.32
Planning and implementing summer learning and afterschool programs (in addition to Learning Loss budgeted above)	\$0.00
Addressing learning loss among students (in addition to Learning Loss budgeted above)	\$147,733.93
School facility repairs and improvements	\$3,146,402.00
Improving indoor air quality	\$4,011,818.00
Developing and implementing public health protocols	\$0.00
Other activities to maintain operation and continuity of services	\$2,826,309.75
Total Budget	\$22,412,010.00

Activities to Address Learning Loss

ARP ESSER Learning Loss Requirements

The LEA must use 20 percent of the funds it receives under the ARP ESSER program to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year. The LEA should duplicate or align with the goals, strategies, and evidence-based interventions in its Academic Recovery Plan to minimize duplication of efforts.

Academic Recovery Plan – English Language Arts (click box to scroll)

Kershaw County will use a variety of methods to address learning loss. Among those will be after school and in-school tutoring programs (estimating 230 tutors will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 22-23 and 23-24 school years) , the funding of 8 interventionists in our elementary and middle schools for remediation will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24 school years, and funding for 1 transition class teacher and 1 transition class assistant between 1st and 2nd grade will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 21-22 school year and potentially the 22-23 and 23-24 school years if needed. Two additional instructional assistants will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 21-22 school year. We will also offer summer reading camps and K-2 STEAMing Ahead into Reading Camp in the 22-23 school year. An estimated 85 KCSD employees will be funded through

Academic Recovery Plan – Mathematics (click box to scroll)

Kershaw County will use a variety of methods to address learning loss. Among those will be after school and in-school tutoring programs (estimating 230 tutors will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 22-23 and 23-24 school years) , the funding of 8 interventionists in our elementary and middle schools for remediation will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24 school years, and funding for 1 transition class teacher and 1 transition class assistant between 1st and 2nd grade will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 21-22 school year and potentially the 22-23 and 23-24 school years if needed. Two additional instructional assistants will be funded by ARP ESSER in the 21-22 school year. We will also offer summer reading camps and K-2 STEAMing Ahead into Reading Camp in the 22-23 school year. An estimated 85 KCSD employees will be funded through

Academic Recovery Plan – Social, Emotional, Behavioral and Mental Health (click box to scroll)

Academic Recovery Plan – Other Activities (click box to scroll)

Activities for other ARP ESSER Funds

The LEA must describe how it will expend its remaining ARP ESSER funds in the other allowable categories. Detailed categories are available on the [ARP ESSER Spending Plan Categories webpage](#).

Activities authorized under the ESEA, the IDEA, the AEFLA, and the Perkins Act

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

N/A

Coordination, preparedness, and response efforts

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Funding for a District level nurse to oversee all nursing staff in the schools, provide school nursing backup as needed, and maintain health and safety protocols as well as maintain the District's COVID dashboard to keep staff, parents, and the community informed on the number of positive cases and the number of students and staff quarantined at each facility. (ESSER II funds were used to fund two years of a district nurse salary and benefits. ARP ESSER will be used to fund one more year of the same district nurse salary and benefits.) Kershaw County School District does not impede equitable access or participation based on gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. (ESSER II funds were used to fund two years of a district nurse salary and benefits. ARP ESSER will be used to fund one more year of the same district nurse salary and benefits.) - Amend #2 - Change Indirect cost from .1902 to .1818, Move employees that were in ESSER II for one year to ESSER III for one more year - Amend #4 Move excess Payroll Func 100 Obj100 (175K) and Benefit Cost Func 100 Obj 200(75K) to Bucket 13 Func 200 Obj 500 for HVAC project.- Amend #9 - Move 58.75 from Bucket 02 200/200 to Bucket 02 200/100 to cover payroll shortage for the upcoming quarter. Then take the remaining

Activities to address unique needs of specific students

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Funding for additional services to assist students with learning disabilities including those with dyslexia. One dyslexia coordinator will be hired with funding for three years' salary, benefits, travel and professional development. Additional dyslexia training and certification for staff in each school will be provided. Dyslexia coordinator supplies and materials to include professional books for teachers, office related supplies, and curriculum to be determined through needs assessment. Kershaw County School District does not impede equitable access or participation based on gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Amend #1 - In Bucket 03 Move \$50.00 out of Func 100 Obj 400 Supplies to Func 100 Obj 600 to pay dues for International Dyslexia Association. This will insure that we get better rates on conferences and purchasing dyslexia material. - Amend #2 - Change Indirect Cost from .1902 to .1818 - Amend #4 the staffing has been moved to the General Fund, and the remaining funds will be used to upgrade/replace HVAC units in several schools.

Improving preparedness and response efforts

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Ongoing efforts to maintain a healthy and safe learning environment for our District including maintenance for our temperature detection system (FEEVR) and our visitor check-in system as well as funding for ID badges for students District-wide. Amend #2 - Change Indirect Cost rate from .1902 to .1818 - Amend #4 - Move from Func 200, Obj 300 29.5K and Obj 400 25K to Bucket 13 Func 200 Obj 500 for the HVAC project. - Amed #9 Move 35K from fun 200 obj 300 to Bucket 06 Func 200 Obj 300 to cover cleaning cost for the 1st quarter.

Training and professional development on sanitation

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

N/A

Supplies to sanitize and clean facilities

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Supplies to maintain clean and sanitary facilities and funding for enhanced school cleanings. Supplies and services will include PPE, hydrostatic spray and all day cleaning. This cost included in the ARP ESSER spending plan is to cover a portion of the cleaning expenditures in the 21-22 and 22-23 school years. The monthly cleaning cost for all KCSD locations is estimated to be around \$230,000. This consists of on-site cleaning staff at each campus to continuously wipe down and sanitize door knobs, desks, and high traffic areas, provide extra cleaning and sanitizing to classrooms where a COVID positive case has been identified, refill hand sanitizing stations, clean and sanitize buses, and provide weekly hydrostatic spraying of the facilities. Amend #1 - Move \$10,000.00 from Bucket 6 Func 200 Obj 400 Safety Supplies to Bucket 13 Func 200 Obj 300 for the rental of 7 Commercial Air Scrubbers to insure air quality. - Amend #2 - Change Indirect Cost rate from .1902 to .1818, and use 165K to from cleaning to fund positions in bucket 15 - Amend #4 - Move the 90K in Func 200 Obj 400 for cleaning supplies to the 300 Obj for School cleaning. - Amend #9 Move money from bucket 02, 04 , 06, 11, 12, 15 & 20 to cover cleaning cost for Budd Group cleaning cost for the first quarter. Amend 10 - Move

Planning, coordinating, and implementing school closures

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

N/A

Educational technology

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Technology expenses including purchasing devices to maintain our 1:1 ratio for learning, replacing 1/4 of the Chrome book fleet in the 22-23 school year; funding will also be used for various technology contracts for copier leases, replacing district phone system. Amend #2 - change Indirect Cost rate from .1902 to .1818 and transfer the 1,000,000.00 set aside for chrome books to fund positions. - Amend 4 - Purchase of laptop Func 200 Obj 500 1.4mil the money is being transfer from Bucket 15 Func 100 Obj 100 excess. The personnel in this function have already been moved to the General Fund.

Mental health services and supports

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Additional mental health personnel and services to support our most vulnerable students. These mental health services will be offered to all students as needed and will include a contract with the local Alpha Center for social workers. Under the direct supervision of the Director of Behavioral Health Services, Kershaw County will implement a variety of social, emotional, behavioral, and mental health supports including partnering with the local Alpha Center to have social workers perform in home wellness checks for students that are disengaged with their school work or are under performing as well as providing mental health counseling as needed to students experiencing anxiety or other conditions stemming from learning loss or the return to school. Kershaw County School District does not impede equitable access or participation based on gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age and will advertise programs in Spanish and include translators as needed to encourage participation of ESOL learners and immigrant students. Amend #2 - Change Indirect Cost rate from .1902 to .1818 Amend #3 moves 274.9K from contracted services to the following categories 77K for Social Workers salaries, 5K for benefits and 192.9K to bucket 15 func 100/200 to pay for Edmentum curriculum software for

Planning and implementing summer learning and afterschool programs (in addition to Learning Loss budgeted above)

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

N/A

Addressing learning loss among students (in addition to Learning Loss budgeted above)

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Funding for bus drivers and state mileage for buses to provide additional bus routes home from the after school remediation program which will address learning loss for all students. Kershaw County School District does not impede equitable access or participation based on gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age and will advertise programs in Spanish and include translators as needed to encourage participation of ESOL learners and immigrant students. Amend #2 - Change Indirect Cost rate from .1902 to .1818 - Amend #4 - Move excess money out of Func 200, Obj 100 24K, Obj 200 27.2K, Obj 300 43.3K to Bucket 13 Func 200 Obj 500 for the HVAC project. - Amend #7 – No reclassification of money. Modification to add 23-24 Summer Camps funding for bus drivers and state mileage for buses to provide student transportation for Summer remediation programs which will address learning loss. - Amend #9 Move from 200/100 (35.7K), 200/200 (9.5K), 200/300 (9.3K) to Bucket 06 200/300 for monthly cleaning expense performed by the Budd Group a total of (55K)

School facility repairs and improvements

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Capital improvements to Camden High School and Lugoff-Elgin High School annexes to help improve operations in the school facility and make available additional learning space to be utilized as needed. Currently there is unusable space at Camden High School and Lugoff Elgin High School. These funds will be used to repair approximately 128,000 sq ft including 144 windows, flooring, and lighting; technology costs include access control to the building, security cameras, and technology needed to bring the classrooms up to date to meet our instructional needs. Amend #2 - increase budget to cover surveys, studies Testing and other reports required by OSF- Amend #9 - Move 108K to Bucket 06 200/300 to monthly cleaning expense performed by the Budd Group

Improving indoor air quality

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Amend #1 - Move \$10,000.00 from Bucket 6 Func 200 Obj 400 Safety Supplies to Bucket 13 Func 200 Obj 300 for the rental of 7 Commercial Air Scrubbers to insure air quality. - Amend #2 - Change Indirect Cost rate from 19.02 to .1818 - Amend #4 Move excess operating cost from bucket 15 Func 100 Obj 100 that has been absorbed by the General Fund as listed in summary to create budget transfer for Capital Project of HVAC Units in Func 200 Obj 500 - 4mil & remove the 200/300 object code for the health and safety audit. The HVAC project will provide units for the following locations: Lugoff High, Lugoff Middle, Camden Middle and Blaney Elementary.

Developing and implementing public health protocols

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Conduct a health and safety audit for each facility within the Kershaw County School District. - Amend #4 Move money from func 200 obj 300 for safety audits to Bucket 13 for Capital Project of HVAC Units in Func 200 Obj 500 -

Other activities to maintain operation and continuity of services

Description of Planned Activities if applicable (click box to scroll)

Modernize business processes to accommodate changing landscape post-pandemic and to allow the District to maintain operations, even during an emergency. Additional travel for staff training and additional staff supplies as needed. Personnel including all personnel costs for 3 years associated with the newly formed Kershaw County School District Virtual Academy to include 15.75 teachers, 0.5 Guidance, 1 Secretary, stipends for up to 4 face-to-face teachers providing virtual lessons and a Director. Personnel including all personnel costs associated with an additional maintenance position for 2 years, additional library assistants, additional self-contained teaching assistant, additional preschool SPED teacher, and an administrative assistant, all for 3 years. Additional supplies as associated with self-contained classroom, preschool SPED classroom; additional supplies for the Virtual Academy that may be needed to enhance virtual learning to include microphones, document cameras, physical education supplies, art supplies and manipulatives for students; additional staff supplies that may be needed to address learning loss to include learning packets and manipulatives for quarantined students to aid in virtual learning, manipulatives and materials for students in transitional

Evaluation and Review

The LEA must describe how it will ensure that the interventions it implements to address the academic impact of lost instructional time will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. These include students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students. The LEA should use or align with its progress monitoring narrative from its Academic Recovery Plan in this section to avoid duplication. (click box to scroll)

In the development of academic goals, the Kershaw County School District leadership team considered student performance in a pre-COVID environment and analyzed how the subsequent quarantine and change in learning modalities affected our students. We have set aggressive goals which will not only restore but exceed pre-COVID learning targets. The goal should be to enhance and enrich the learning of all students, not just the students who were adversely affected by the past 18 months.

School Leadership teams will meet with the KCSD Academic Department team (Chief Academic Officer, Director of Elementary Education, Director of Secondary Education, Director of Intervention, and Director for Special Services) to review school-specific data, set goals, and identify students from each grade level for different levels of intervention services.

Throughout the next two school years (2021-22 and 2022-23), routine collection of formative, interim, and summative assessment data will be used to monitor student progress. The KCSD Academic Leadership Team will meet monthly with school-level administrators, district literacy and MTSS Coaches to provide training on intervention resources and to update intervention plans, and get update on student progress. School-level PLCs and Delayed Start Wednesday PLCs will help teachers disaggregate data as well as collaborate and formulate effective research-based strategies to maximize student outcomes.

KCSD will use formative and interim assessments, such as NWEA MAP Reading and Math, Edmentum Suite: Exact Path and Study Island, PALS, KRA, Dibels (K-3), Dreambox Online Learning Math Platform, HMH "Into Math" Growth Assessment, and reading and writing portfolios. The results will be monitored by the classroom teacher, interventionists, and the school-level administrator and then discussed with the Academic Team to ensure compliance, fidelity of use, and for district wide data analysis.

Consultation and Public Input

The LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders and give the public an opportunity to provide input in the development of its plan. Specifically, the LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with students; families; school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions. Additionally, the LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following, to the extent that they are present in or served by the LEA: Tribes, civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations), and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.

Description of how public input was obtained (click box to scroll)

The District posted its ESSER III spending plan on the District website in June 2021 along with a public survey, open to all staff, students, parents, etc. to gather input from the community. The public survey was available from June 24 - July 13, 2021. The District presented the ESSER III spending plan to the public during a public hearing on July 13, 2021, and allowed for public feedback regarding the plan. The District also held a special called Board meeting on July 27, 2021, to further address any concerns about the ESSER III spending plan.

Required Stakeholder	Date(s) of Input
Students	July 13, 2021
Families	July 13, 2021
School and district administrators	July 13, 2021
Teachers	July 13, 2021
Principals & school leaders	July 13, 2021
Other educators, school staff	July 13, 2021
Professional organizations	July 13, 2021
Other stakeholders representing key student subgroups	July 13, 2021

ASSURANCES

As a requirement for ARP ESSER funds, the LEA must agree to all of the following terms, conditions, and assurances included, but not limited to the following. All assurances and terms and conditions are included in the LEA's Subgrant Award Notification and accompanying attachments.

1. This LEA will use American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER) funds for activities allowable under section 2001(e) of the ARP.
2. This LEA will comply with the maintenance of equity provision in section 2004(c) of the ARP.
3. This LEA will reserve not less than 20 percent of its total ARP ESSER allocation to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as
 - a. summer learning or summer enrichment,
 - b. extended day,
 - c. comprehensive afterschool programs,
 - d. extended school year programs, or
 - e. other evidence-based interventions,
 and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on student subgroups (each major racial and ethnic group, children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care).
4. This LEA will either:
 - a. within 30 days of receipt of ARP ESSER funds, develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a plan for the safe return of in-person instruction and continuity of services as required in section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP, or
 - b. develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website such a plan that meets statutory requirements before the enactment of the ARP. This LEA will, as required in section 2001(i)(2) of the ARP, before making the plan publicly available, have sought public comment on the plan and took such comments into account in the development of the plan.

5. This LEA will comply with all reporting requirements at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the U.S. Secretary of Education may reasonably require, including on matters such as:
- a. how the LEA is developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies and plans in line with the CDC guidance related to addressing COVID-19 in schools;
 - b. overall plans and policies related to the LEA's support for return to in-person instruction and maximizing in-person instruction time, including how funds will support a return to and maximize in-person instruction time, and advance equity and inclusivity in participation in in-person instruction;
 - c. data on each LEA's mode of instruction (remote, hybrid, in-person) and conditions;
 - d. LEA uses of funds to meet students' social, emotional, and academic needs, including through summer enrichment programming and other evidence-based interventions, and how they advance equity for underserved students;
 - e. LEA uses of funds to sustain and support access to early childhood education programs;
 - f. impacts and outcomes (disaggregated by student subgroup) through use of ARP ESSER funding (e.g., quantitative and qualitative results of ARP ESSER funding, including on personnel, student learning, and budgeting at the school and district level);
 - g. student data (disaggregated by student subgroup) related to how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected instruction and learning;
 - h. requirements under the Federal Financial Accountability Transparency Act (FFATA); and
 - i. additional reporting requirements as may be necessary to ensure accountability and transparency of ARP ESSER funds.