



NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Applying For ESSER II Funding

May 3, 2021

CRRSA Enacted

- On December 27, 2020, President Trump signed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act 2021 (CRRSA) into law, providing ESSER II funding for education.
- This new funding is intended to help school districts safely keep schools open, measure and effectively address significant learning loss, and take other actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on students and families.

Training Purpose

- The purpose of today's Teams training is to share the LEA Certification & Agreement for Funding package (A and E) with school personnel. The package is the application LEAs will complete to access their ESSER II funding.

Training Agenda

- Reporting Requirements
- LEA Certification and Agreement Package
- Approval Process
- WebGrants
- Capital Expense Request
- Tracking/Coding of Funds
- ESSER Monitoring
- Funding for Private Schools
- ESSER Funding Guidance
- COVID Funding Training Series
- COVID Website

Reporting Requirements

Before you begin spending, it is critical for you to be aware of how and on what you spent this funding and to whom you must report.

- Learning Loss: The North Dakota Legislature passed HB 1013 that requires LEAs receiving elementary and secondary school emergency relief funds to provide two narrative summary reports to the superintendent of public instruction. These reports must provide:
 - Information regarding learning losses of students identified within the district, including subgroup gaps;
 - School district plans to accelerate learning recovery for all students, including closing subgroup gaps;
 - Use of funds, including the percentage of those funds expended in categories determined by the superintendent of public instruction; and
 - The impact expenditures had on accelerating the learning recovery for the district's students.
- Quarterly Reports: The first quarter for reporting on ESSER II and ESSER III expenditures will be April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The report will be due July 22, 2021. Since districts can go back until March 13, 2020 to use their ESSER II and III funds, this first report will be used to capture all ESSER II and III funding being spent from March 13, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

LEA Certification and Agreement Package

The NDDPI has created a quick, streamlined process for school districts to access the ESSER II funding. North Dakota districts intending to apply for the ESSER funding will need to complete and submit the Certification and Agreement package consisting of Parts A-E.

- Parts A-E
 - [Application](#)
- Appendix A
 - [ESSER II Allocations](#)
- Appendix B
 - [Use of Funds](#)

Approval Process

- LEAs may submit the ESSER II application package anytime following today's training. The application should be submitted to dpiasstsupt@nd.gov. The final deadline to submit is June 1, 2021.
- Once the application package is received and approved, the authorized representative, the business manager, and the school board president will receive an email with the approval letter.

WebGrants

- Districts will use the department's WebGrants system to access the funding on a reimbursement basis. Each district representative needs to register in WebGrants and the district's DUNS# must be active in Sam.gov in order to receive funding.
- Once the ESSER II application has been approved, the district authorized representative who is registered in WebGrants will receive an email notification of this grant. Authorized representatives will then need to log into WebGrants to electronically sign the grant award, which is referred to as a contract.

Capital Expense Request

- Recipients of federal funds must get prior written approval before spending funds on **capital expenditures**. (2 CFR § 200 436 (b)(1)). Capital expenditures include the funds an entity spends to buy, maintain, or improve its fixed assets, such as buildings, vehicles, equipment, or land. The standard threshold for getting prior approval is \$5,000.
- This SFN form can be submitted to Lisa Johnson at lisaajohnson@nd.gov.
- Districts will also need to submit SFN 52304 (School Construction Approval Request) for any requests in excess of \$150,000 to Adam Tescher at atescher@nd.gov.

Tracking/Coding of Funds

- LEAs must track these funds separately to report use of funds and expenses in the future. The following codes have been established and align with NDSDFARM:
 - Revenue Coding: 4590 – Other Restricted Federal Revenue
 - Project Expense Coding: 109 – ESSER II
 - Learning Loss Coding: 111 – ESSER II
 - Program Code 298 should only be used with function code 1000. If using a function code other than 1000, use the program code identified in the NDSDFARM manual for each expenditure.

ESSER Monitoring

- There are a multitude of state and federal regulations that LEAs must adhere to regarding the ESSER II funding.
- LEAs must comply with audit requirements within the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG), Edgar, the Single Audit Act, and other specific ESSER regulations. This includes information such as time and effort documents, equipment inventories, procurement, and audits.
- The NDDPI will be conducting a training on the ESSER monitoring requirements on May 18, 2021. A Teams link to the training will be forthcoming.

Funding for Private Schools

- No Equitable Services Provisions: In lieu of including an equitable services provision with ESSER II funding for nonpublic schools, Congress appropriated a separate category of funding called the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools Program (EANS).

ESSER Funding Guidance

The NDDPI created ESSER I guidance in the spring of 2020. We are currently waiting to receive the official U.S. Department of Education (USED) ESSER guidance. Once the guidance is received, the NDDPI will:

- Sponsor an “Overview of USED ESSER Guidance” training. It has been rescheduled for May 14, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. (CDT).
- Update our original ESSER guidance on the NDDPI website.

COVID Funding Training Series

The NDDPI is conducting a “[COVID Funding Training Series](#)”, which will highlight some of the key provisions within law.

COVID Website

- [Application Package](#)
- [Capital Expenses](#)
- [Resources](#)

QUESTIONS?

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