**School District**

**Initial Application**

**for**

**Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Funding**

**Part A: Cover Sheet**

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| LEA:  Click or tap here to enter text. | CFDA Number:  **84.425U** |
| LEA Authorized Representative:  Click or tap here to enter text. | DUNS Number:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Telephone:  Click or tap here to enter text. | Mailing Address:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Email address:  Click or tap here to enter text. |

To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information and data in this agreement are true and correct. I acknowledge and agree that the failure to comply with all Assurances and Certifications in this Agreement, all relevant provisions and requirements, or any other applicable law or regulation may result in liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, *et seq.*; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and 18 USC § 1001, as appropriate.

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| LEA Authorized Representative: (typed name):  Click or tap here to enter text. | Telephone:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Signature of LEA Authorized Representative: | Date:  Click or tap to enter a date. |

**Part B: ESSER III Grant Requirements**

As authorized representative of the school district, I assure:

(All boxes must be checked.)

The district will submit the ESSER III supplemental application by the established due date, at which time the remaining one-third of ESSER III will be available.

The district assures it will spend, at minimum, 20% of their ESSER III allocation to address learning loss.

The district assures it will have a “Return to In-Person Instruction” plan posted on the district website within 30 days of the release of ESSER III funding, which is by June 24, 2021.

The district assures it will obtain broad stakeholder input on the anticipated use of the ESSER III funding.

ESSER III funds will only be used on allowable activities as outlined in Appendix B.

The district will submit ESSER quarterly reports by the established due dates.

The district (if applicable) will comply with the “Maintenance of Equity” requirement.

The districts will submit reports regarding how the district utilized ESSER funding to address learning loss.

* State Required
* Federal Required
* Fiscal Reports

ESSER III funds are available on a reimbursement method. Requests for reimbursement through WebGrants will include:

* Summary Report – New
* Detailed Ledger
* Receipts or Invoices

For any construction or renovation projects, the district will complete the “Capital Expenses-Prior Approval for ESSER Funding” form and comply with the Capital Expense requirements.

The district will submit all required documentation needed in order to comply with the ESSER monitoring requirements.

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| LEA Authorized Representative: (typed name)  Click or tap here to enter text. |

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| Signature of LEA Authorized Representative: | Date:  Click or tap to enter a date. |

**Part C: Programmatic, Fiscal, and Reporting Assurances**

The school district authorized representative assures the following:

1. Local educational agencies receiving elementary and secondary school emergency relief funds shall provide two narrative summary reports to the superintendent of public instruction, including 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; uses of elementary and secondary school emergency relief funds, including the percentage of those funds expended in categories determined by the superintendent of public instruction; and the impact elementary and secondary school emergency relief fund expenditures had on accelerating the learning recovery for the districts' students.
2. The local educational agency will administer the ESSER III program in accordance with all applicable statues, regulations, program plans, and applications.
3. The control of funds provided to the local educational agency under each program, and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency and that a public agency will administer those funds and property.
4. The local educational agency will make available reports to the State agency or board and to the Secretary as may reasonably be necessary to enable the State agency or board and the Secretary to perform their duties and that the local educational agency will maintain such records, including the records required under section 1232f of this title, and provide access to those records as the State agency or board or the Secretary deem necessary to perform their duties.
5. Any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public.
6. That in the case of any project involving construction-
   1. the project is not inconsistent with overall State plans for the construction of school facilities, and
   2. in developing plans for construction, due consideration will be given to excellence of architecture and design and to compliance with standards prescribed by the Secretary under section 794 of title 29 in order to ensure that facilities constructed with the use of Federal funds are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.
7. The local educational agency has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in each program significant information from educational research, demonstrations, and similar projects, and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices developed through such projects.
8. That none of the funds expended under any applicable program will be used to acquire equipment (including computer software) in any instance in which such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees or any affiliate of such an organization.
9. Local educational agencies receiving ARP ESSER funds will either: (a) within 30 days of receipt of the funds, will 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) have developed and made publicly available on the LEA’s website such a plan that meets statutory requirements before the enactment of the ARP.
10. Local educational agencies shall, to the greatest extent practicable, continue to compensate its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to COVID-19, based on the unique financial circumstances of the entity.
11. The LEA will comply with the maintenance of equity provision in section 2004(c) of the ARP.
12. Not less than 20 percent of the LEA’s total ARP ESSER allocation will be used to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, extended school year programs, or 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).
13. The LEA Superintendent acknowledges and agrees that failure to comply with all assurances and certifications in this recovery plan, all relevant provisions and requirements of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 201 (CRRSA Act), Pub. L. No. 116-260 (December 27, 2020), or any other applicable law or regulation may result in liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, et seq.; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR Part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3485; and 18 U.S.C. § 1001, as appropriate, and other enforcement actions.
14. The LEA will cooperate with any SEA monitoring policies and/or procedures with regards to the allowability of expenditures.
15. The LEA will use ESSER III funds for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the ARP Act.
16. The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such funds by making records available for inspection, production, examination, and authorized individuals for interview and examination, upon request.
17. The LEA will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations, and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR Parts 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR Part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3485; and the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR Part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR Part 3474.
18. The LEA will comply with General Education Provision Act (GEPA) Sections 427 and 442.
19. The LEA will take all necessary steps to allow every student, teacher, and other program beneficiary to participate in the ESSER III program. If any barrier arises that impedes equal access to, or participation, in the program, the LEA will quickly address and resolve those issues. (GEPA 427)
20. The LEA will comply with the maintenance of effort provision in Section 317(b) thereof.
21. The LEA will comply with all reporting requirements and submit required quarterly reports to the NDDPI at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Secretary may subsequently require. Additional reporting may be required in the future, which may include: the methodology LEAs will use to provide services or assistance to students and staff in both public and non-public schools, the uses of funds by the LEAs or other entities and demonstration of their compliance with Section 18003(d), such as any use of funds addressing the digital divide, including securing access to home-based connectivity and remote-use devices, related issues in supporting remote learning for all students, including disadvantaged populations.
22. The LEA will comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; merit systems; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; flood hazards; historic preservation; protection of human subjects; animal welfare; lead-based paint; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders and regulations.
23. The LEA will comply with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) requirements in Subpart D—Post Federal Award Requirements (2 CFR §§200.300-345) and Subpart E—Cost Principles (2 CFR §§200.400-475) to ensure that LEAs, including charter schools that are LEAs, are using ESSER funds for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the CARES Act.
24. The LEA will use such fiscal control and accounting procedures as will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, federal funds.
25. The LEA will comply with federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age. These laws include the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (34 CFR 100), the Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (34 CRF 106). Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Equal Educational Opportunities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (34 CFR 104), and the Age Discrimination Act (34 CFR 110).
26. The LEA will keep such records as may be reasonably required for a fiscal audit and permit NDDPI and auditors to have access to grantee’s records and financial statement related to this grant, as necessary.
27. The LEA will conduct background checks of all personnel who will have direct contact/interaction with students involved in the program.

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