

# Certification and Agreement for Funding for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Education Relief Fund (ARP ESSER)

## BACKGROUND

### Purpose

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021 and provides an additional \$122.8 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER Fund). ARP ESSER Fund awards to SEAs are in the same proportion as each State received funds under Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, in fiscal year 2020.

The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) is distributing these funds by application in alignment with the federal distribution formula. This new funding is intended to help local education agencies safely reopen schools, measure and effectively address accelerated learning, and take other actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the students and families who depend on our K-12 schools.

Although the ARP ESSER uses of funds are similar to those for ESSER I and ESSER II, there are important distinctions between the ARP ESSER and other ESSER programs, including the period of funds availability, equitable services to non-public schools, maintenance of effort, and a report on efforts to measure and address accelerated learning. LEAs may plan to use all remaining ESSER I and ESSER II funds before making use of the ARP ESSER funds, given the shorter remaining period of availability, however this is not a requirement. Please consult the accompanying [fact sheet](#) to learn more about the ARP ESSER program.

As part of the required state application for the U.S. Department of Education, USBE leaders met with a diverse group of stakeholders to get input on statewide needs in May 2021. USBE identified the following three issues currently facing students and schools across Utah as a result of or in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We urge LEAs to consider these priority areas in designing plans for the use of ARP ESSER funds.

1. Student mental health and social emotional needs including student health foundations and protective factors.
2. Missing or Disengaged Students in K-12
3. Literacy

The ARP ESSER funds require that an LEA engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of this plan. The LEA will assure that the public has been provided the opportunity to provide input to the LEA ARP ESSER plan, that the LEA has taken the public input into account, and that the local school board has adopted the LEA's plan for the use of ARP ESSER funds in an open and public meeting.

## Federal Allowable Use Cases

Generally, in determining whether an activity is an allowable use of funds, a State or LEA must determine:

- Is the use of funds intended to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students?
- Does the use of funds fall under one of the authorized uses of ESSER or GEER funds?
- Is the use of funds permissible under the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Part 200)? In particular, is it necessary and reasonable for the performance of the ARP ESSER award?

The use cases as described in the federal American Rescue Plan legislation is detailed below. In addition, LEAs may consider the following [companion guidance that was created by the Hunt Institute](#) to support states and LEAs.

### Uses of Funds. —A local educational agency that receives funds from ARP ESSER:

1. Shall reserve not less than 20 percent of such funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)(B)(xi)), students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care; and

Shall use the remaining funds for any of the following:

2. Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.
3. Any activity authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
4. Any activity authorized by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.
5. Any activity authorized by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.
9. Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
10. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.
11. Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education

Act and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.

12. Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and children with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.
13. Providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools.
14. 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, children with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.
15. Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, of the local educational agency, including by—
  - (i) 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;
  - (ii) implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students;
  - (iii) providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and
  - (iv) tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.
16. 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.
17. 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.
18. Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.
19. 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.

### **Non-Allowable Use Cases**

The Department generally does not consider the following to be an allowable use of ESSER funds, under any part of section 313:

1. subsidizing or offsetting executive salaries and benefits of individuals who are not employees of the LEAs
2. expenditures related to state or local teacher or faculty unions or associations

## Funding

The USBE intends to award funding to eligible LEAs based on FFY 2020 Title I-A allocations as directed by the U.S. Department of Education. The USBE has also established a base allocation for all LEAs using the state set aside as we did with the original ESSER I and ESSER II awards.

### *One-Time Funding*

LEAs should note that the ARP ESSER is one-time funding that must be utilized by September 30, 2023 and plan expenses accordingly.

*(Please note, due to the federal Tydings Amendment, awardees have an additional 12-months to submit final reimbursement paperwork, which is the 09/30/24 date referenced in the fact sheet. We are encouraging all of our LEAs to make plans to spend by the end of the award period 09/30/23.)*

### *Equitable Services:*

An LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds under this grant is not required to provide equitable services to non-public school students and teachers with the ARP ESSER funding. The Utah State Board of Education is administering the new Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools ([Utah EANS Website](#)) program, which allows non-public schools to seek equitable services directly from USBE.

### *Maintenance of Records:*

Records pertaining to this award under 2 C.F.R. 200.334 and 34 C.F.R. 76.730, including financial records related to use of grant funds, must be retained separately from the LEAs original ESSER I funds awarded in 2020 and ESSER II awarded in 2021.

## **Application Deadline: September 17, 2021 at 5:00 PM in the Utah Grants Management System**

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis through the Utah Grants Management system. Most outcomes are determined within 2-3 business days from submission.

### **USBE Points of Contact:**

Sara Harward  
CARES Educational Specialist, USBE  
sara.harward@schools.utah.gov

Sarah Young  
Director of Strategic Initiatives, USBE  
sarah.young@schools.utah.gov

## LEA Application

Please complete the fields below on pages 5-15 that are highlighted for response and upload to the Utah Grants Management System along with the budget request:

<p><b>Legal Name:</b> Millard School District</p>
<p>Contact Information for LEA Representative</p> <p><b>Name:</b> David V. Styler</p> <p><b>Position &amp; Office:</b> Superintendent</p> <p><b>Address:</b> 285 E. 450 N. Delta, Utah 84624</p> <p><b>Telephone:</b> 435-864-1000</p> <p><b>Email address:</b> Dave@millardk12.org</p>

## PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

Below we are asking each LEA to provide an explanation of how the LEA intends to use the ARP ESSER funds in alignment with the allowable use cases described by the U.S. Department of Education. We encourage LEAs to prioritize **evidence-based practices** and call those out in their narrative.

### 1. UNDERSTAND & ASSESS: Student Academic and Social Emotional Needs

USBE encourages LEAs to complete a needs assessment before determining how their portion of ESSER funds will be used. LEAs should follow existing [needs assessment protocols](#) to determine the most valuable and targeted use of ESSER funds. A needs assessment should include a review of the current state as compared to the desired state, the identification of barriers to reaching the desired state, and an analysis of the potential sources of the identified barriers.

- A. **Impacts of COVID-19 on your LEA:** Please describe the areas that have been most impacted by the coronavirus on your LEA. What has been done to determine the strategies that are needed to mitigate the effects of the pandemic? Please provide any baseline data and stakeholder feedback collected to show the impacts of COVID-19.

Even though we were able to hold school through the entire 20-21 school year, there were noticeable losses. Student absenteeism was extremely high because of quarantines and encouraged absence for other illnesses. Though we were able to provide online instruction for all students whose situations necessitated it, many students struggled. Failing grades skyrocketed and we implemented several measures to assist these students with ESSER II funds. Remediation during and after the school day through the final quarter of 20-21, extended and expanded summer school, and additional planning time for teachers have all had a positive impact on student outcomes. As we initiated discussions for ESSER III funds, these rose to the top of the list of measures that have made a difference for student

outcomes. Using these we were able to raise several hundred grades to a passing level. With the planning time, teachers were tasked with evaluating student data for their 20-21 students as well as their 21-22 students. They then were able to meet with the students' former or future teachers to prepare a plan for their instruction in the current year. We have also used these funds to provide professional development into effective collaboration to better assist our students. Again, the feedback was to use these tools as we move forward, and they are listed as priorities.

Social Emotional health of students continues to be a major focus. Our administrators, parents, and board have seen the need to assist families and students through this difficult time and beyond. We have prioritized social workers/mental health monitors with a portion of the funds to work with students, staff, and families who have been adversely affected by the pandemic.

Technology is an ongoing concern. The pandemic has taken a toll on our devices and it has been readily apparent to our education community that we need an ongoing supply of devices coming into our system. Chromebooks and protective cases are the result of this need.

We have struggled with quality of instruction for at-home students, and with the requirements of social spacing in the schools and classrooms. Contact tracing is also a major concern for our schools and the wellness of our students and staff. We are upgrading two technology systems that will help with tracing, with lesson delivery to our on-line students, and with communication to students in our socially distanced and often masked classrooms. Cameras on our schools and grounds with tracing capabilities, cameras and sound systems in our classrooms that will aid in lesson delivery for in-class and on-line instruction came out of our discussions and are on our priorities. Finally, we have determined to purchase touchless bottle refilling stations so students do not have to come in contact with a fountain.

These items have come through school level discussions in the spring with faculty, student and parent groups, they moved to our board meetings with public comment opportunities given on possible priorities, they were reported in our local newspapers with an invitation to make suggestions and comments, and have been reviewed by administrators and board members for prioritization.

## 2. DESIGN: LEA ARP ESSER Plan and Aligned Budget

In building budgets, please keep in mind that federal funds should be utilized to supplement your state and local funds. The ARP ESSER budget submitted through the Utah Grants Management System does not have to include state and local funds, but their availability and utilization should be considered the foundation for building recovery and acceleration plans. As you are braiding various state and federal funds, be mindful that some funds expire at different times than others. The increased federal funds will enhance the opportunities that you can offer, but we encourage you to think holistically as you assess your LEA's situation and make plans for academic recovery and acceleration.

- A. **Plan to Address Accelerated learning:** Please provide a narrative response for how your LEA plans to use at least 20 percent of funds to address accelerated learning through the implementation of **evidence-based** interventions (e.g., providing intensive or high-dosage tutoring or accelerating learning), such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after-school programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that those interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

The ARP Act defines the term “evidence-based” as having the meaning in section 8101(21) of the ESEA. Accordingly, “evidence-based” includes several tiers of evidence. Specifically, “evidence-based,” when used with respect to a State, LEA, or school activity, means an activity, strategy, or intervention that:

- Demonstrates a statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes or other relevant outcomes based on—
  - Strong evidence from at least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental study (“tier 1”);
  - Moderate evidence from at least one well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study (“tier 2”); or
  - Promising evidence from at least one well-designed and well-implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias (“tier 3”); or
- Demonstrates a rationale based on high-quality research findings or positive evaluation that such activity, strategy, or intervention is likely to improve student outcomes or other relevant outcomes and includes ongoing efforts to examine the effects of such activity, strategy, or intervention (“tier 4”).

Given the novel context created by the COVID-19 pandemic, an activity need not have generated such evidence during the COVID-19 pandemic to be considered evidence-based. The Department’s What Works Clearinghouse (available at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>) identifies the tier of evidence that reviewed studies meet, as applicable. As part of the “demonstrates a rationale (tier 4)” level of evidence, grantees may develop and use approaches that are novel, if they are consistent with theoretical and empirical findings from research and the grantee will continue to review the effects of the practice to build the evidence base. Developing a logic model can help to demonstrate a rationale. Logic model resources are available at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/pacific/elm.asp>.

**i. Narrative for how your LEA plans use at least 20% of the total ARP ESSER award to address accelerated learning through the implementation of evidence-based outcomes.**

In the spring and summer of 2020 we implemented several programs to address learning loss through the pandemic. We have measured considerable success through these steps and we will continue these with the use of ESSER 3 funding.

We provided and will continue to provide additional training and planning days for teachers in the summer months. These are designated in part for the review of student data from the previous year so they may better meet the needs of those students they have taught as well as those they will be teaching. These days allowed teachers to assess learning levels and make appropriate plans for students.

We implemented additional tutoring and help opportunities for all our students. Students can receive help from secondary teachers throughout the school day during teacher preparation periods, and teachers can arrange special help sessions for groups of students during this period or after school to assist those who may need additional assistance. During the 2019-20 school year, we had 40 secondary students who were in need of credit recovery. In the 2020-21 school year this ballooned to 154

students. Because we are not sure of the on-going impact the pandemic will have on student success, we will just say that we hope to continue our current level of success. Elementary students are able to receive extra assistance on Friday afternoons from teachers who are compensated to use their preparation time to assist students.

We have expanded our summer school in the number of students we are able to serve, both in regular teachers and with additional instructional assistants who are provided training to address student deficiencies, and as reported earlier, this and our tutoring program have made a substantial difference in the amount of credits recovered.

Part of our investment in our summer education programs has been to hire school guidance counselors to be on staff to address student questions and needs and to provide needed encouragement. These summer programs will be continued with the expenditure of ESSER 3 funds for the allowable future.

We have used funding to hire social workers to assist students and families through the pandemic. They have been instrumental in linking student needs to available assistance and have been able to address the various emotional, health, and educational needs of our students. The ESSER 3 funding will be used to extend this service to students for the allowable future.

Finally, we will use the funding to subscribe to several on-line learning programs that have been vetted by our instructional technology department and used with success by classroom teachers through the pandemic. These are particularly helpful to assist with online instruction and to provide additional remediation to those in need. These are also a resource to allow students to move forward through the curriculum as appropriate. These programs are all designed to assist in the acceleration of student learning. These are the strategies which were successful through the pandemic to this point and we will continue their use with this funding.

This is a total of approximately \$1.22 million, or 41% of our ESSER 3 funding.

**ii. Please complete the table below for each of the activities that you will be pursuing to address learning loss.**

<b>Evidenced-based Activity Description</b>	<b>Timeframe for Implementation</b>	<b>Estimated Total Budget for Activity</b>	<b>Data Source for Measuring Effect (ex. Attendance, Acadience, RISE, ACT Aspire, local measure, etc.)</b>	<b>Baseline Measure from 2018-2019 or 2019-2020 (as applicable)</b>	<b>Target for measured effect at conclusion of activity</b>
<i>Additional training and planning days for all teachers</i>	<i>June 2022- August 2022 and June 2023 - August 2023</i>	<b>\$420,000</b>	<i>Development of shared districtwide curriculum standards to guide student instruction and common assessments to measure progress</i>	<i>2020-21: No district level guides to guaranteed and viable curriculum</i>	<i>2021-22: Development visible and accessible on district web pages. Available to students and parents.</i>



<i>Continue secondary after-school and preparation period instruction through the 21-22 school year.</i>	<i>September 2021- June 2022</i>	<b>\$180,000</b>	<i>Credits earned through preparation period/after school/ summer school instruction</i>	<i>2020: 122 quarter credits earned 2021: 464 quarter credits earned using this program.</i>	<i>Continuation of the success that we have experienced using the three prong intervention. (see narrative)</i>
<i>Continue elementary after-school instruction through the 21-22 school year.</i>	<i>September 2021- June 2022</i>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<i>Participation in after school instruction.</i>	<i>Spring 2021 An average of 20 students attended weekly</i>	<i>Increase targeted assistance by 5%</i>
<i>Expanded Summer School Elementary program.</i>	<i>June 2022- August 2022 and June 2023 - August 2023</i>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<i>Summer attendance 2021 Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grade</i>	<i>205 students attended summer 2021</i>	<i>Increase student attendance by 5% with a focus on at-risk students.</i>
<i>Expanded Summer School Secondary program.</i>	<i>June 2022- August 2022 and June 2023 - August 2023</i>	<b>\$24,000</b>	<i>Credits earned through preparation period/after school/ summer school instruction</i>	<i>2020: 122 quarter credits earned 2021: 464 quarter credits earned using this program.</i>	<i>Continuation of the success that we have experienced using the three prong intervention. (see narrative)</i>
<i>School Counselors staffed at summer schools to assist students.</i>	<i>June 2022- August 2022 and June 2023 - August 2023</i>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<i>Average Daily Attendance through summer school.</i>	<i>Summer Attendance 2021: 80% in Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grade.</i>	<i>Improve daily attendance at summer school by 5%</i>

<i>School social workers provided to assist with emotional and academic needs of students and families through the 2023 school year.</i>	<i>September 2021- August 2022 and June 2023 - August 2023</i>	<b>\$340,000</b>	<i>Chronic Absenteeism</i>	<i>Number of students missing 20 or more days in 2018-2019: 363</i>	<i>Reduce the number of students missing 20 days during the 21-22 school year by 10%</i>
<i>Online learning programs provided to enhance in-person and on-line instruction</i>	<i>2021-22 and 2022-23 school years</i>	<b>\$230,000</b>	<i>Percent of students reporting the use of a variety of media and modalities to represent what they had learned.</i>	<i>2020: 45% usage rate</i>	<i>We would like to raise the percent of students engaging with these tools to 65%</i>

**iii. What is your process for evaluating the success of the above activities and revising your ARP ESSER plan to reflect improvements?**

Our process for evaluating success of these activities will be much as it is for all of our existing activities. We will review our graduation rate for the students who have been adversely affected by the pandemic, which includes all of our students in some way. Part of our ongoing review pertains to credits lost and credits recovered. We had a much higher rate of student failure during the pandemic and we were able to track and record our success in assisting our students to get back on track and recover credits through the spring and summer of this year. We will continue to track this progress moving forward.

We will closely monitor all of our standardized testing. We continue to monitor the progress of our students on the RISE assessments, on Acadience, and our school will be tracking student progress on their common assessments. We use these assessments to inform our instruction and to evaluate the needs of individual students. This will continue to be the case.

We will convene our administrative team quarterly to assess student progress and to consider adjustments to our plan. As we determine which steps have been either more or less effective we will consider making alterations to the plan.

**iv. How will the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act 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, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, and migratory students?** USBE encourages LEAs to reference their needs assessment to support their narrative.

The Millard School District conducted a three-month process to arrive at the areas of greatest need. Original priorities were created at the end of the 2020-2021 school year as part of a review of all available data. This indicated not only our academic areas of greatest need but our needs based on groups of concern. While all of our students struggled academically through the pandemic, the struggle was greater in low socio-economic homes where parents were not as available to address academic needs and concerns. The priorities to assist these students were published on district websites and in the local newspaper, with explanations and an invitation for public input through direct communication with the superintendent or staff, or through participation in our school board members where multiple discussions were held regarding the proposals. As a result of these conversation several of the original priorities have been modified and focused to meet needs of our students.

We feel strongly that this plan will address the needs of all students with special attention given to those who will be beneficiaries of additional investment of time and resources. We will continue to monitor the progress of all students as we move through the administration of the plan to assure opportunities for all.

**B. Plan for remainder of funds:**

Please provide a narrative response that details your LEA ARP ESSER plan for the remaining funds in alignment with the allowable use cases. We recommend you call out the federal use case language and category number in your response, as well as including your budget narrative from the Utah Grants Management System.

- ***School interior and grounds camera systems: Cameras with ability to contact trace, determine high traffic areas, inform cleaning needs. \$430,000***

Category 14: 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.

Category 18: Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.

- ***In-classroom camera and microphone systems: Allows for recording of lessons with link to Canvas to post instruction on-line for absent students, as well as those who may need***

***to review key components of lessons at home. Also, amplifies sound to all parts of the classroom in a time of social distancing. \$786,003***

Category 11. Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.

Category 12. Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and children with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.

- ***Educational Technology Endorsement for teachers: Pay fees and a stipend to help teachers enhance their abilities to effectively access and utilize technology. \$2,169 per teacher, up to 50 teachers. \$108,450***

Category 11. Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.

- ***Touchless bottle refilling water fountains: 3 fountains for each school, 8 buildings @ \$4,500 each. \$36,000***

Category 16. 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.

### 3. Implementation and Policy

#### A. **LEA Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Commitment**

An LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds must, within 30 days of receiving the funds, make publicly available on its website a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services by addressing the mitigation strategies described by the federal legislation and interim final rule. Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA must seek public comment on the plan.

We recognize that for most Utah LEAs, schools are already providing this in-person instruction. The requirements outlined below are in compliance with the ARP ESSER award, and should speak to the plans for school in fall 2021. **Please complete the “LEA Response” within the table below for each of**

**the mitigation strategies describing if the LEA has any policies and what those policies are for the given mitigation strategy.**

Mitigation strategy	USBE and UDOH Guidance Resources	LEA Response:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	<a href="https://coronavirus.utah.gov/mask/">https://coronavirus.utah.gov/mask/</a> <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html</a> <a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a> -page 105-109	The Millard School District will continue to work with Central Utah Public Health to determine the policies and actions that are necessary to respond to the current status of COVID-19 in our context.
Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)	<a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a> -page 101-102	Millard School District will continue to use the guidelines reflected in the COVID-19 school manual.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	<a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a> -page 109-111	Millard School District will continue to use the guidelines reflected in the COVID-19 school manual. Sanitizer will continue to be placed in traffic areas and classrooms , and signs reminding students and patrons of good hygiene habits will be posted in conspicuous locations.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	<a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a> -page 75-84	Millard School District will continue to use the guidelines reflected in the COVID-19 school manual.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in	<a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a>	Millard School District will continue to use the guidelines reflected in the COVID-19 school manual. We will continue to work with Central Utah

collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	<a href="#">19 School Manual FINAL.pdf</a> - page 27-35	Public Health to determine the policies and actions that are necessary to respond to the current status of COVID-19 in our context.
Diagnostic and screening testing	<a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a> -page 37-43; 46-51; 52-56	Millard School District will continue to use the guidelines reflected in the COVID-19 school manual. We will continue to work with Central Utah Public Health to determine the policies and actions that are necessary to respond to the current status of COVID-19 in our context. Testing is made available to all students and staff who request it.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible	<a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a> -page 57-59	We have provided vaccination clinics for all eligible students and staff and continue to encourage these groups to receive the vaccination in coordination with their health care provider.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies	<a href="https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf">https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/School/COVID-19_School_Manual_FINAL.pdf</a> -page 106, 109, 114	Millard School District will continue to use the guidelines reflected in the COVID-19 school manual to meet the needs of all children.

- B. Please provide a link to your website where you will post this plan within 30 days of receiving the funds, to make it publicly available as required in federal legislation and rule.** This link will be made available on the USBE website and be provided to the U.S. Department of Education.

<https://www.millardk12.org>

#### 4. GEPA Section 427 (20 U.S.C. 1228a) Compliance

##### A. LEA Description of GEPA Compliance

Please describe how the LEA will comply with the requirements of GEPA Section 427 (20 U.S.C. 1228a). Comprehensive GEPA requirements are listed under the assurances section of this document. Your description must include information on the steps the LEA proposes to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede access to, or participation in, the program.

##### Description of GEPA Compliance:

The Millard School District will take all steps to assure that the opportunities provided in this grant are provided to all students and teachers regardless of gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age, which may impede equal access to, or participation in, the program.

We also assure that The Millard School District will administer ARP ESSER funds in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications;

The control of funds provided to the District, 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;

Millard School District will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, ARP ESSER funds paid to that agency;

We will make reports to the governor and to the U.S. Secretary of Education as may reasonably be necessary to enable the governor and the Secretary to perform their duties and that the local educational agency will maintain such records, including the records required under section 443, and provide access to those records, as the governor or the Secretary deem necessary to perform their duties;

The Millard School District has provided reasonable opportunities for the participation by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals in the planning for and operation of ARP ESSER fund expenditures;

Any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to ARP ESSER will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public;

The Millard School District 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; and

None of the funds expended under ARP ESSER 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.

## ASSURANCES

The superintendent or charter school director assures the following:

### Plan Development and Approval Requirements

- The LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders, including, but not limited to:
  - i. students;
  - ii. families;
  - iii. school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and
  - iv. teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.
- The LEA must also engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following to the extent present in or served by the LEA:
  - i. Tribes;
  - ii. civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and
  - iii. stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.
- The LEA assures that the public has been provided the opportunity to provide input to the development of this plan.

- The LEA has taken the public input into account in developing this plan.
- The local school board has adopted the LEA's plan for the use of ARP ESSER funds in an open and public meeting.

## Programmatic Requirements

- LEA plans to use at least 20 percent of funds to address accelerated learning through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and ensure that those interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.
  - To put a greater focus on social and emotional learning the Utah State Board of Education will be using the term "accelerated learning" in place of "learning loss" and assure that the use of this term is in alignment with the federal use of "learning loss."
- The LEA will only use the ARP ESSER grant Coronavirus Relief Fund to cover costs that—
  - Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- The LEA will implement evidence-based interventions, as required by section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act
- The LEAs will address the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on underserved students (i.e., students from low-income families, students from racial or ethnic groups, gender, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, and migratory students), as required by section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act
- LEAs that receive ARP ESSER funds meet the requirements in section 2001(i) of the ARP Act and the requirements relating to the ARP ESSER funds published in the Federal Register and available at <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/american-rescue-plan/american-rescue-plan-elementary-and-secondary-school-emergency-relief/> (ARP ESSER requirements) within 30 days of receipt of the funds, develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.
  - Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA must seek public comment on the plan.
  - The LEA ARP ESSER plan includes adoption or the extent of adoption of the policies and strategies that provide continuity of services including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services in the LEA ARP ESSER plan template.
  - The LEA will periodically review and revise their plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services, no less frequently than every six months for the duration of the ARP ESSER grant (through September 30, 2023) as part of the grant administration and monitoring process.
    - Each LEA will be required to submit an assurance that this step has been completed during COVID-19 relief funding reporting and fiscal year close out occurs twice a year. This step will be required, and LEA reimbursements will be placed on hold until the assurance and submission of updated link has been provided to USBE.
  - All posted LEA plans have a point of contact and/or survey form included on the website where the plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services is published to allow for public feedback and input throughout the calendar year.
  - The LEA will consider all public feedback in reviewing and making any revisions to the plan. The plan and any subsequent and substantive changes will be required to be approved by the local LEA school board in a public meeting.



- An LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds under this grant is **not required** to provide equitable services to non-public school students and teachers with the ARP ESSER funding. All non-public schools can seek funding support from USBE through the Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) program. Please refer them to the USBE website: <https://schools.utah.gov/coronavirus?mid=4985&aid=10>
- When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, U.S. Department of Education grantees shall clearly state:
  - the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;
  - the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and
  - the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.
  - Recipients must comply with these conditions under Division B, Title V, Section 505 of Public Law 115-245, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019.
- Grantees and subgrantees that receive grant funds under programs of the Department are responsible for maintaining internal controls regarding the management of Federal program funds under the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR 200.302 and 200.303. In addition, grantees are responsible for ensuring that subgrantees are aware of the cash management and requirements in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D.

### **Fiscal Requirements**

- Grantees and subgrantees that receive grant funds under programs of the Department are responsible for maintaining internal controls regarding the management of Federal program funds under the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR 200.302 and 200.303. In addition, grantees are responsible for ensuring that subgrantees are aware of the cash management and requirements in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D.

### *Local Educational Agency Maintenance of Equity for High-Poverty Schools*

- Section 2004(c) of the ARP Act stipulates that an LEA, as a condition of receiving ARP ESSER funds under section 2001, a local educational agency shall not, in fiscal year 2022 or 2023—
  - Reduce per-pupil funding (from combined State and local funding) for any high-poverty school served by such local educational agency by an amount that exceeds—
    - The total reduction in local educational agency funding (from combined State and local funding) for all schools served by the local educational agency in such fiscal year (if any); divided by
    - The number of children enrolled in all schools served by the local educational agency in such fiscal year; or
  - Reduce per-pupil, full-time equivalent staff in any high-poverty school by an amount that exceeds—
    - The total reduction in full-time equivalent staff in all schools served by such local educational agency in such fiscal year (if any); divided by
    - The number of children enrolled in all schools served by the local educational agency in such fiscal year.
- Exception: The above condition shall not apply to a local educational agency in federal fiscal year 2022 or 2023 that meets at least 1 of the following criteria in such fiscal year:
  - Such local educational agency has a total enrollment of less than 1,000 students.
  - Such local educational agency operates a single school.
  - Such local educational agency serves all students within each grade span with a single school.

- Such local educational agency demonstrates an exceptional or uncontrollable circumstance, such as unpredictable changes in student enrollment or a precipitous decline in the financial resources of such agency, as determined by the Secretary of Education.

## **Reporting Requirements for ARP ESSER**

As described in the Grant Award Notification (“GAN”), USBE will ensure that its LEAs comply with, all reporting requirements at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require, including on matters such as:

- The LEA will comply with all reporting requirements at such time and in such manner and contain such information as the federal government, state lawmakers, and USBE may reasonably require in the future.
  - Records pertaining to this award under 2 C.F.R. 200.334 and 34 C.F.R. 76.730, including financial records related to use of grant funds, must be retained separately from the LEAs ESSER I funds (awarded in 2020) and ESSER II funds (awarded in 2021).
- 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 mitigating COVID-19 in schools;
- Overall plans and policies related to LEA 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;
- Data on each school’s mode of instruction (fully in-person, hybrid, and fully remote) and conditions;
- 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;
- LEA uses of funds to sustain and support access to early childhood education programs;
- 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);
- Student data (disaggregated by student subgroup) related to how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected instruction and learning;
- Requirements under the Federal Financial Accountability Transparency Act (“FFATA”); and
- Additional reporting requirements may be necessary to ensure accountability and transparency of ARP ESSER funds.

## **Records Retention**

- The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to ARP ESSER grant by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals available for interview and examination, upon the request of (i) the governor; (ii) the Department of Education and/or its Inspector General; or (iii) any other federal agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority.

## **General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Requirements for LEAs**

*Section 442 (20 U.S.C. 1232e) Assurances*

- Any LEA receiving funding under this program will have on file with the SEA a set of assurances that meets the requirements of section 442 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (20 U.S.C. 1232e).
- To the extent applicable, an LEA will include in its local application a description of how the LEA will comply with the requirements of section 427 of GEPA (20 U.S.C. 1228a). The description must include information on the steps the LEA proposes to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede equal access to, or participation in, the program.
- The LEA will administer ARP ESSER funds in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications;
- The control of funds provided to the LEA, 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;
- The LEA will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, ARP ESSER funds paid to that agency;
- The LEA will make reports to the governor and to the U.S. Secretary of Education as may reasonably be necessary to enable the governor and the Secretary to perform their duties and that the local educational agency will maintain such records, including the records required under section 443, and provide access to those records, as the governor or the Secretary deem necessary to perform their duties;
- The LEA will provide reasonable opportunities for the participation by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals in the planning for and operation of ARP ESSER fund expenditures;
- Any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to ARP ESSER will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public;
- In the case of any project involving construction—
  - The project is not inconsistent with overall State plans for the construction of school facilities, and
  - 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 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in order to ensure that facilities constructed with the use of Federal funds are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities
- The LEA 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; and
- None of the funds expended under ARP ESSER 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.

### **Assurance on Lobbying (34 CFR part 82)**

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

