

Background. Federal ESSER funds, Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief, represents the largest influx of federal funds to schools ever.

THREE FUNDING STREAMS

ESSER I	ESSER II	ESSER III
CARES Act	Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act	American Rescue Plan Act
Passed March 2020 (thru September 2022)	Passed December 2020 (thru September 2023)	Passed March 2021 (thru September 2024)
Allocation to Wisconsin School Districts:	Allocation to Wisconsin School Districts:	Allocation to Wisconsin School Districts:
\$157,299,997	\$617,450,614	\$1,386,706,369

ESSER III 2021-22 TIMELINE

August – The DPI submitted a plan and is awaiting U.S. Department of Education approval

August & September – U.S. Department of Education approval (it's late)

November & December – DPI develops grants for districts to access funds

December – April 2022 – school districts access funds

RIGHT TO MEANINGFUL CONSULTATION

LEAS [school districts] must provide opportunities for stakeholders to meaningfully and substantively contribute to their ESSER III plan. All

LEAs must consult with the following groups:

- Students
- Families
- School and district administrators (including pupil services/special education administrators)
- Teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions

Student and staff focused ESSER fund ideas:

- Incentivize educators working with students disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- HVAC updates, filters and the assurance other health safety measures such as handwashing stations, masks, sanitizer, ample bathroom supplies
- Address recruitment or retention challenges resulting from the pandemic
- Provide additional compensation to teachers and ESPs that have assumed new duties because of COVID-19
- Lower class sizes
- Employer provided resources for teachers (phones, internet reimbursement, subscriptions to education technology resources, etc.)
- Summer school enrichment and after school tutoring
- Additions and improvements in outdoor learning spaces
- Increase mental health services and nursing staff

Submit questions using WEAC's secure online form: www.weac.org/coronavirus