

Kansas ARP ESSER State Plan Highlights

Total ARP ESSER allocation for Kansas: \$831,170,555

ARP ESSER funding released to Kansas on March 24, 2021: \$553,723,455

ARP ESSER funding released to Kansas on July 22, 2021: \$277,447,100

2020-2021 Preliminary Statewide Enrollment: 481,750

Top Priorities within Kansas' plan:

- Addressing student, school, and district learning loss
- Providing summer enrichment opportunities

Highlights of Kansas's Plan:

- **Returning to In Person Learning in 2021:** All school districts began to provide in-person instruction opportunities on March 31, 2021. The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) will continue to monitor school district learning environments at least through the 2021-22 school year, or as long as may be required by state and federal law.
- **Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations:** KSDE developed a Navigating Next document to support school systems, which provided guidance for safely completing the 2020-2021 school year while preparing for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Additionally, a statewide tool will support districts in determining options for the use of ARP ESSER funds, scheduled to be expended in the future.
- **Understanding the Impact of the Pandemic:** KSDE will analyze 2020-2021 school year summative assessment results to help identify potential changes to student learning trends. KSDE is encouraging school districts to examine attendance data to identify students with prolonged periods of absence and lack of engagement during the 2020-2021 school year. Additionally, school districts are encouraged to review district-specific formative assessment tools to gain insight into student learning, as well as utilizing other information tools to understand students' social and emotional needs.
- **Addressing the Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time:** KSDE has identified several evidence-based interventions to mitigate the academic impact of lost instructional time, including focusing on the science of teaching language and literacy skills, standards-based mathematics instruction, social-emotional learning, screening and progress monitoring, and evaluation of learning progress toward achievement of state curricular standards.
- **Investing in Summer Learning and Expanded Afterschool Programs:** KSDE will use ARP ESSER in the summer of 2021 funds to partner with youth-focused community organizations, such as the Boys & Girls Club, 4-H, and YMCA, to help recover lost instructional time in skill development due to the pandemic using evidence-based summer learning and enrichment programs and afterschool programs. KSDE also plans to offset the cost of admission for students to visit museums, zoos, historical sites, state parks, and the Kansas state fair to promote experiential learning opportunities during the summer.
- **Staffing to Support Students' and Educators' Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs:** ARP ESSER funding will allow KSDE to address a state-wide shortage in licensed professionals trained to address the documented social-emotional needs of students coming out of the

pandemic. This will include a Grow Your Own Counselor model that encourages districts to identify candidates and employ them as student services coordinators while they develop their skills in an approved school counseling graduate program.

- **When Kansas's LEA Use of Funds Plans will be due:** August 20, 2021