Minnesota ARP ESSER State Plan Highlights

Total ARP ESSER allocation for Minnesota: $1,321,564,450
ARP ESSER funding released to Minnesota on March 24, 2021: $880,430,601
ARP ESSER funding released to Minnesota on August 26, 2021: $441,133,849
2020-2021 Preliminary Statewide Enrollment: 872,083

Top Priorities within Minnesota’s plan:
- Supporting the mental health of students, families, and staff
- Ensuring students are engaged and connected to learning

Highlights of Minnesota’s Plan:
- **Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations:** Minnesota has developed and promoted the Roll Up Your Sleeves campaign to increase vaccination rates, which includes targeted outreach to 12–17-year-olds. Additionally, the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) is promoting the Vaccine Connector, which allows Minnesotans to find vaccination clinics near them. MDE is connecting local public health departments and school districts and charter schools to provide onsite school vaccination clinics for students, staff, and community members.

- **Addressing the Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time:** MDE will award ARP ESSER funds to districts and charters to address the academic impact of lost instructional time. Districts and charters will be required to select and implement evidence-based practices focused on the needs of historically underserved students, including those who have missed the most in-person instruction and who did not consistently participate in remote instruction. Priority areas for the use of funding include tutoring, expanding access to community schools that provide wraparound services, early learning, and increasing student support personnel such as school counselors and school nurses.

- **Investing in Summer Learning and Expanded Afterschool Programs:** MDE will award ARP ESSER funds for summer learning and enrichment programs to community organizations, with an emphasis on community-based organizations that have experience working with student populations that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families; Hispanic or Latino, American Indian, Asian, and Black students, English learners, students with disabilities, migratory students, students in foster care, and neglected, delinquent, and incarcerated students. MDE will also award funds for evidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs to community organizations through Ignite Afterschool, which is Minnesota’s affiliate of the National Afterschool Association.

- **Staffing to Support Students’ Needs:** Minnesota will use ARP ESSER funds to support districts and charters in hiring licensed school counselors, school nurses, school social workers, school psychologists, and alcohol and chemical dependency counselors to help provide early responses to support students’ social-emotional and mental health.

- **When Minnesota’s LEA Use of Funds Plans will be Due:** October 1, 2021