

New York ARP ESSER State Plan Highlights

Total ARP ESSER allocation for New York: \$8,995,282,324

ARP ESSER funding released to New York on March 24, 2021: \$5,992,520,557

ARP ESSER funding released to New York on August 5, 2021: \$3,002,761,767

2020-2021 Preliminary Statewide Enrollment: 2,601,676

Top Priorities within New York's plan:

- Address lost instructional time and close academic performance gaps.
- Provide social emotional support within a *Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Framework*.
- Implement evidence-based interventions within multi-tiered support systems.

Highlights of New York's Plan:

- **Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations:** As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) will continue to engage with stakeholders, the Governor's Office, and the New York State Department of Health on strategies and guidance for districts in support of NYSED's overall goal for the 2021-2022 school year of maximizing in-person teaching and learning, being responsive to student needs, and keeping students and staff healthy and safe.
- **Addressing the Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time, Investing in Summer Learning, and Expanding Afterschool Programs:** The 2021-2022 enacted state budget fully allocated the ARP ESSER funds reserved to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, investing in summer learning through the ARP ESSER funding period, and expanding afterschool programs as subgrants to 398 high-need school districts. NYSED will require districts to utilize subgrant funds to implement evidence-based interventions. NYSED will provide technical assistance to support implementation and will monitor progress.
- **Investing in Early Learning:** NYSED will invest \$195 million of its emergency reserve funds to fund new full-day prekindergarten programs for 4-year-olds and expand existing programs. The pandemic dramatically impacted pre-school children as many daycare, pre-school, and enrichment programs closed for much of the past year. NYSED will expand opportunities for 4-year-olds to attend free, public pre-K programs where they will be able to catch up on lost early childhood learning, socialization, and other foundational skills required for long-term success. A crucial goal of these programs will be to accelerate learning to mitigate the impact of lost instructional time and help close pre-existing performance gaps.
- **Supporting Students' and Educators Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs:** NYSED collaborates with the Mental Health Association of New York State to provide districts with Mental Health First Aid Training. Mental Health First Aid is a public education program that introduces participants to risk factors and warning signs of mental illnesses, builds understanding of their impact, and overviews common supports. NYSED also adapted trainings to focus on integrating SEL and trauma-responsive practices into remote learning environments where needed, in order to support development of students' SEL competencies related to self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and reasonable decision making.
- **Community Engagement and Consultation:** NYSED convenes monthly stakeholder meetings; held Regional Task Force meetings and also held convenings led by the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages, the Office of Special Education, the Office of ESSA-Funded Programs; held Digital Equity Summits and solicited public input on the ESSER Plan via direct

outreach through an online “Thought Exchange” application. Almost 5,000 participants provided 6,844 unique responses and over 95,000 ratings of the responses shared by stakeholders. Of the respondents, 37% are parents/guardians of a current student, 37% are faculty, staff, or an educator, 6% are district level administrators, 3% are building-level administrators, and 14% identify as “other.” The information gathered were considered by NYSED in developing reopening guidance as well as future guidance to help support LEAs as they prepare to return to school

- **When New York LEA Use of Funds Plans will be Due:** August 31, 2021