

August 5th ARP ESSER Office Hours for LEAs

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Thursday, August 5, 2021

# Updated School Manual Released

**The official K-12 school recommendations from the Utah Department of Health have been released.** Thank you for your patience as we have worked with many stakeholders to provide these resources and recommendations. **You can find the full guidance outlined here:**

**<https://coronavirus.utah.gov/education>**

The webpage includes an overview of legislation that impacts schools this year that may also be helpful (you can also find that info here: <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/special-orders>).

# Mask announcement made by Governor Cox earlier this week...

USBE does NOT have further information about the distribution of KN95 masks at this time. We will share that information with you once we have it.

We appreciate your patience as we travel this path together.

# Trouble accessing your ARP ESSER application in Utah Grants?

Some LEAs have not been able to access their ARP ESSER application in the Utah Grants Management system. We are working to get that resolved.

If you do have technical issues, please reach out to Sara Harward at [sara.harward@schools.utah.gov](mailto:sara.harward@schools.utah.gov).

# LEA Questions

# How can an LEA request PPE from USBE?

USBE does not have future plans to provide PPE to LEAs at this time. An LEA can use ESSER funds to purchase additional PPE.

# When can we start making purchases for supplies?

ARP ESSER applications will be reviewed in 2-3 business days after they are received. These funds date back to March 13, 2020.

Until your plan is officially approved by USBE, you are NOT guaranteed reimbursement for the funds you spend, so be cautious of how you spend prior to approval.

Do LEAs have to have all reimbursement requests for APR ESSER in by the Sept 30, 2024 deadline (obligation plus Tydings amendment), or do they have the additional 120 days to request after that?

LEAs will have until the November 2024 monthly allotment deadline to submit reimbursement requests.



## ARP ESSER Application Section 3B: Provide a link to your website where you will post this plan within 30 days of receiving the funds

This must be a direct link to your plan, not just the homepage of your website (unless your plan is on the homepage).

Your plan needs to be on your website at the time you submit your application into the Utah Grants Management system.

# What are the requirements for stakeholder feedback?

This is outlined in the “Assurances” section of the ARP ESSER application.

- The LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders, including, but not limited to:
  - i. students;
  - li. 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;
  - li. civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and
  - lii. 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.

# Does an LEA seek board approval of the plan before submitting the application to USBE?

Yes, an LEA must seek public comment and stakeholder feedback and get local board approval of the plan prior to submitting the ARP ESSER application in Utah Grants.

# Can LEAs use ARP ESSER funds for capital expenses?

- Must be in your plan AND to get a letter of approval from USBE in a separate process.
- The letter request process has been finalized and here are some of the main requirements for any capital expenditure requests:
  - Project Description Requirement
  - Project Timeline within the 34.CRF.706.707 full project must be completed by September 30, 2024
  - Expected Budget
  - Alignment to the Allowable **ARP ESSER Use Cases** for Funding Stream
  - LEA procurement policy
  - Require Three Bids for Service in alignment with LEA policy
  - Davis Bacon Compliance Responsibilities of LEA
  - USBE Construction Approvals Process for anything that requires a building code inspection per the international building code: <https://www.schools.utah.gov/financialoperations/formsapplications>
- If you are planning on capital expenditures, be clear with your team that they will need to plan for this process in their timeline.

# Can LEAs revise their plans after they have been approved in the Utah Grants Management system?

Yes. LEAs can revise their plan at any point during the program period. This can be done through a Budget Amendment in the Utah Grants system.

LEAs need to note that any amendment must be approved by the local school board in an open and public meeting as included in the application assurance section.

# Reminders

- If you have specific questions you'd like addressed before office hours, you can email USBE for technical support:
  - Sara Harward, [sara.harward@schools.utah.gov](mailto:sara.harward@schools.utah.gov)
  - Sarah Young, [sarah.young@schools.utah.gov](mailto:sarah.young@schools.utah.gov)
- Our website has a plethora of resources:  
<https://schools.utah.gov/coronavirus>
- Next office hours on Thursday, Aug 12th at 2:00 PM

# Questions?