

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Grant Overview

Board of Education

June 8, 2021



Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds



- Federal funds
- Provide states and local education agencies (LEAs) money to respond to the pandemic impacts
- Three phases of grant funds available: different purposes, intended outcomes, and allocations

| Fund | Act to Support the Fund | General Purpose | Simsbury Allocation/Use | Grant application status |
|-----------|---|-----------------|---|--------------------------|
| ESSER I | Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) | Survive | \$83,217 1:1 technology devices | Completed and accepted |
| ESSER II | Coronavirus Response and Relief - Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act | Thrive | \$430,323/ 1:1 technology devices and unanticipated teacher hires due to the distance learning mandate | Completed and accepted |
| ESSER III | American Rescue Plan (ARP) | Transform | \$ 981,440 20% required to address learning loss | In process |

Potential Grant Fund Use



| Addressed Area | Potential Uses | Estimated Dollars |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| <i>Learning Loss</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summer enrichment opportunities at all levels K-12: general and special ed• Elementary math tutors• Tiered math support: HJMS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$ 68, 980• \$ 60,000• \$ 50,000 |
| <i>Transformation</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental health supports TBD• Software enhancements• Social Emotional Learning Curriculum• Equity Recommendation Professional Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TBD• \$47,500• \$65,000• \$75,000 |

APR ESSER Requirements

- Districts must share their in-person return plans
- Simsbury has already returned successfully this past year!
- Timeline and tasks seem regressive
- 20% denoted for learning loss
- Need to meet requirements of application to receive funding





Timelines & Tasks

| Date Due | ARP ESSER Grant Task |
|--------------------|--|
| May 24, 2021 | Grant assurances due; application starts |
| June 7, 2021 | CT State Department of Education ARP ESSER Plan due to federal government |
| June 23, 2021 | Simsbury's updated safe return to in-person instruction plan made available to the public for transparency and feedback |
| August 23, 2021 | Simsbury's complete ARP ESSER application due |
| September 30, 2024 | Simsbury must obligate all ARP ESSER funds |

Updated Plan

- Based upon current mandates and requirements that continue to develop
- Articulate our anticipated opening protocols for the 2021-2022 school year
- Update = a snapshot in time
- As metrics & guidance evolves from major agencies* update & communicate plan changes

* CT State Department of Education, Dept. Public Health, Farmington Valley Health District



Communication Process/Timeline

- Letter to Simsbury Public School stakeholders
 - Week of June 21, 2021
 - Link to updated plan on website
 - Feedback opportunity
- Revisions made and communicated
 - June 23 - August 15, 2021
- Application Submitted by August 23, 2021



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a small, rectangular white card. The card is held between the thumb and index finger, with the rest of the hand open. The word "OPPORTUNITY" is printed in a bold, black, sans-serif font on the card. The background is a blurred wooden surface, possibly a table or floor, with warm, golden light filtering through, creating a soft, textured effect.

OPPORTUNITY

Questions?