Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds were authorized by the United States Congress to provide financial assistance to states and schools to address the impact of COVID-19 on schools. Grant funds were released to State educational agencies in the same proportion as each state received funds under Part A of Title I, which is based on the number of students who receive free or reduced lunch.

In Alabama, disbursements of funds to school systems were in the same proportion as disbursement to school systems under Part A of Title I. All funds were fixed in value for each school system ahead of the application process. The State Department of Alabama developed applications for each disbursement, each of which with different criteria and categories for spending, but all of which designed to support learning during and after the pandemic. After submission, applications were reviewed and approved through a rigorous review process by the Federal Programs Department of the State Department before funds were allocated to school systems. Instructional materials and programs were subject to either a rubric process or a submission of documentation that those materials and programs are evidence-based.

Three disbursements were made to school systems, denoted as ESSER, ESSER II, and ESSER III. The latter disbursements also included a State Reserve with fixed amounts and designated categories of spending for each. All monies must be spent by September 30, 2024.

ESSER I (\$796,538)

ESSER funds were disbursed based on the following categories:

Online Learning Support	\$ 746,600.75
Private Schools Proportionate Share	\$ 49,937.25

American Rescue Plan ESSER II (\$3,213,106.00)

Grant application categories for ESSER II funds included High Quality Instructional Materials in English/Language Arts and Mathematics, High Quality Professional Development, and Unfinished Learning Supports with subcategories of Assessment, Remediation/Intervention, Family Support Resources, and Other Tools. Within these categories, funds were requested and approved for the following:

Reading Support Materials	\$ 617,591.20
Subs/Stipends	\$ 158,546.40
Assessments	\$ 271,093.34
Tutor Support	\$ 354,752.00
Summer Payroll Costs	\$ 384,700.80
Summer Materials Support	\$ 39,072.60
English Language Learner Support	\$ 25,748.91
Personnel (Seven 1-year Positions)	\$ 615,000.00
Technology Support	\$ 746,600.75

American Rescue Plan ESSER II State Reserve (\$385,793)

Categories for ESSER II State Reserve funds were fixed for the categories of English Language Arts and Mathematics Courses of Study professional development and Assessments. Within these categories, fixed fund amounts were disbursed in the following manner:

English Language Arts Course of Study PD	\$ 210,400.00
Mathematics Course of Study PD	\$ 134,400.00
Assessments	\$ 40,993.00

American Rescue Plan ESSER III (\$7,221,389.00)

Grant application categories for ESSER III funds include Personnel, Technology, Professional Development, and Curriculum Materials. Within these categories, funds were requested and approved for the following:

Reading Support Resources	\$	373,094.90
Subs/Stipends	\$	84,593.54
Assessments	\$	142,023.07
Tutors	\$	333,878.84
Summer Payroll Costs	\$	209,986.28
Summer Program Materials	\$	262,872.00
Math Support Resources	\$	44,362.58
Personnel (One 2-Year Position)	\$	184,999.08
Technology	\$ 5	5,585,578.71

American Rescue Plan ESSER III State Reserve (\$1,482,780.00)

Grant application categories for ESSER III State Reserve Funds included Summer Learning, After-School Learning, and Intervention. Within these categories, funds were requested and approved for the following:

Core Content Intervention and Assessment	\$ 1	1,063,254.00
Tutors	\$	209,763.00
Summer Learning	\$	209,763.00

Auburn City Schools welcomes feedback on the spending of ESSER funds. Feedback will be accepted through the end of the current semester and from April 1 through the end of the second semester. If you would like to leave feedback, click this link and complete the feedback form.