

ESEA Office Hours Questions & Answers

May 20, 2021



Q: What type of questions will be asked in monitoring process?

A: We are currently developing the protocol. Please refer back to KPMGs Office Hours [presentation](#) regarding their sampling.

Q: What is considered "meaningful" stakeholder engagement?

A: USDE considers meaningful stakeholder engagement to be ongoing and frequent opportunities for stakeholders to have a genuine and authentic opportunity to inform the decisions being made. Of course, that can take many different shapes and forms. The other piece is that stakeholders must be able to access the shared information and have an opportunity to give input in a language that they can understand.

Q: Can you give examples of what we would submit for stakeholder engagement -- board agendas? principal surveys?

A: Board agenda, board meeting notes, surveys, etc.

Q: So Districts should not plan to commit to any spending until the Plan is approved? What about trying to bring on temporary type staff to support our learning models?

A: Once substantial approval granted is provide, you can obligate and plan for funds, however you cannot draw down funds.

Q: Is the return to in-person plan for this year or next school year?

A: Current school year. If modifications and changes are being made to the plan, the expectation is LEAs revisit the plan every 6 months.

Q: Our LEA has a plan for safe return (since we have been open). We were able to link to that in the initial application piece sent it. Did we have to have a link for district authorized charters as well or do they fall under the LEA?

A: The Safe Return plan is an LEA requirement. In the application you only need to include the LEA plan UNLESS the LEA plan references a school level plan.

Q: How long is the turnaround for approval if you have submitted ESSER III including the budget?

A: We are striving for a 2–3-week turnaround, however with the influx of applications, reviews may be delayed.

Q: What is the turnaround time for the ESSER III app review if no budget was included to meet the May 23rd deadline?

A: We are striving to turnaround the applications by end of day Monday.

Q: "New activity" is reasonable to put in front of any of those activities?

A: Yes

Q: In the ESSER II application, when we are using the pull down to state what year we are spending funds, there are only choices for 2020-21 and 2021-22- what do we do if there

is a salary that will go through the tydings period (9/20/2023)?

A: In the 22-23 item, indicate that the activity will be a 2-year activity.

Q: How does an LEA receive their ARP Homeless funds? Is there an application that we need to submit or is this part of the ESSER fund budgets?

A: We are working on the applications and budget templates. More information to come on this and we will bring back an update as that plan and respective materials are developed.

Q: Is CDE for sure keeping the 25%? Thinking how many districts & families need housing assistance now

A: No final decisions have been made, but we hope to use a portion of the funding to help meet those emergency needs at the local level.

Q: When do we find out our allocation amount for the homeless funds?

A: We are working on that now and should have additional information soon.

Q: On the budget summary tab, will this calculate in 9414? so we can check for the 20%?

A: It does not calculate in the application. The system provides totals, but not percentages.

Q: Okay- so it does at least break out totals by sub program?

A: Yes - it will give you the 9414 total.

Q: If the ARP Homeless funding is really about the pandemic, then why would you only do some to current grantees? I do get that it is pretty limited funding for the 25% so that it just might be hitting those most impacted -- is that a fair assumption if you do it that way -- trying to explain the rationale potentially to others in district

A: Please set up a call with [Kerry Wrenick](#) and [Dana Scott](#) to discuss further.

Q: Do we know when ESSER II supplemental application for students with disabilities will open?

A: If your entity has received funding for SPED under the administrative unit, the application will need to be linked to your account. Please contact [DeLilah Collins](#) to link the application.

Q: Has there been any new information about IDEA ARP ESSER?

A: IDEA experts have been invited to attend a June Office Hours.

Q: What does access to the AU's SPED supplemental look like? Should there be a separate link? Or once we are given access should it show up in our ESSER II application? I am not seeing ours, and I've requested access. Wasn't sure if I just missed something?

A: Once the AU SPED application has been linked, the ESSER II application will display both links.