Learning and Transparency Technical Assistance Program Grant

COLORADO SCHOOL FINANCE PROJECT
Support Children - Support The Future

May 5, 2022
Who is CSFP?

✓ Non-profit, non-partisan
✓ Supported by school district contributions
✓ School finance analysis for local and state policy makers since 1995
✓ Governed by a board comprised of national and state experts on school finance

Our Mission: To compile, collect and distribute research-based, non-partisan information and data on topics related to school finance for state and local policymakers.

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What is the Learning and Transparency Technical Assistance Grant?

Awarded by the Colorado Department of Education

Began March 1, 2022 and will conclude on September 30, 2024

Help school districts offer their families and communities transparency into the COVID relief funding made available to them, how the funds were used, the programs available for students, and how to access them, and the impacts of these programs on COVID-related needs of their students.
Why is there a need for this grant?

The federal stimulus dollars represent an unprecedented influx of funding that have transparency and accountability requirements.

School districts and BOCES are doing the hard work of deploying federal pandemic recovery funds to improve the lives of students they serve. Under resourced schools need help in telling their story.

We are stronger together and by sharing stories, lessons learned, and best practices, we emerge better equipped to help students.
TELLING YOUR STORY

Creating safe and healthy learning environments

Addressing lost instructional time

Meeting mental health needs of students and staff

Supporting educators and staff stability and well-being
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creating Safe &amp; Healthy Learning Environment</th>
<th>Addressing Lost Instructional Time</th>
<th>Meeting Mental Health Needs of Students &amp; Staff</th>
<th>Supporting Educator &amp; Staff Stability and Well-Being</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting basic needs</td>
<td>Accelerating learning</td>
<td>Supporting mental health for students &amp; staff</td>
<td>Stabilizing educator workforce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providing safe &amp; inclusive learning environment</td>
<td>Ensuring access to &amp; use of technology</td>
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<td>Supporting educator &amp; staff well-being</td>
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<td>Using data to target resources</td>
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<td>Addressing resource inequities</td>
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Based on: [US Dept of Ed COVID-19 Handbook](#) and [Federal Data Collection Form](#)
Meet Our Team

Tracie Rainey
CSFP, Executive Director

Susan Meek
Project Manager

Frank Reeves
Field Manager

Glenn McClain
Field Manager

George Welsh
Field Manager

Justin Silverstein
CEO, Augenblick, Palaich & Associates
What will CSFP do?

Assist Colorado school districts and BOCES in carrying out the critical role of transparency and communication with families and communities, continued community engagement, the use of COVID relief funds, and the impact of those funds on addressing the COVID related needs.

Provide technical assistance program to help school districts inform their families and communities about the programs being offered and how those programs are accelerating learning and recovery for their students.
Supports Include

- Field Managers for personalized support
- Communication resources and toolkits
- Technical assistance on impact analysis
- In-person and virtual workshops and trainings
CSFP Will Assist With

- Understanding and meeting federal requirements with ESSER-related funds
- Communicating how school districts and BOCES are using federal pandemic recovery funds
- Communicating how to engage communities in decision-making
- Communicating how to ensure transparency and accountability
PRIMARY GOAL

Help school districts communicate with students, families, and their communities the opportunities available because of ESSER $s
Timeline

March-June 2022
- Grant Kickoff
- Initial reach out to all school districts
- CSFP publishes interactive map with ESSER I data

July-September 2022
- Field Service support and technical assistance given to school districts
- Monthly communications
- Trainings

October 2022 - September 2023
- CSFP publishes interactive map with ESSER II data
- Field Service support and technical assistance given to school districts
- Monthly communications
- Trainings

October 2023-August 2024
- CSFP publishes interactive map with ESSER III data
- Field Service support and technical assistance given to school districts
- Monthly communications
- Trainings

September 2024
- Final report due and work completed

2022

2023

2024
Website will provide one-stop resource.
Every district and BOCES will have information.
Context will be provided on federal stimulus dollars.
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May 5, 2022

**Funding Timeline**

**FEDERAL**

**ADDRESSING THE CRISIS:**

ESSER I: $727.5 million

**STABILITY & MANAGING THE CRISIS:**

ESSER II: $567.2 million

**RECOVERY & ACCELERATION:**

ESSER III: $1.3 billion

**ESSEER I must be obligated by 9/30/22**

**ESSEER II must be obligated by 9/30/23**

**ESSEER III must be obligated by 9/30/24**

**STATE**

**2020**

STATE FUNDING SHORTFALL

Increased by $612.1 million to new all-time high of $1.18 billion

STATE FUNDING SUPPLEMENTAL

Provided additional $13 million

**2021**

STATE FUNDING SHORTFALL

Decreased by $481.4 million to $571.2 million

STATE FUNDING SUPPLEMENTAL

Provided additional $68 million

**2022**

STATE FUNDING SHORTFALL

Decreased by $182 million to $321.2 million

**2023**

STATE FUNDING

To Be Determined

**2024**

STATE FUNDING

To Be Determined

State funding information is addressing the Budget Stabilization Factor, the mechanism used by the legislature to achieve budget savings for the state by reducing each district’s total funding. *(2022 School Funding Handbook)*
East Grand 2 School District

Federal Stimulus Funding for East Grand 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How much funding was allocated to East Grand 2?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRF: $683,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESSER I (CARES Act): $94,148.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addressing the immediate crisis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESSER II (CRRS Act): $395,412.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providing stability and managing the health crisis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESSER III (ARP Act): $888,668.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recovery and acceleration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEER (Other): N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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includes ESSER supplemental funds provided to districts. An acronyms glossary is available below.

ESSER I Additional Information
Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022

ESSER I funds provided vital resources to districts to address the social and economic disruption caused by the coronavirus outbreak that impacted all school districts starting in March 2020.

The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The top uses of ESSER I funds for our district are provided in the explanation below.

How are students being supported through the use of federal stimulus dollars?
The federal stimulus dollars are a once-in-a-generation opportunity to support our students and to address the multi-year effects of the coronavirus pandemic. The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs in order to:

- Create safe and healthy learning environments
- Address lost instructional time
- Meet mental health needs of students and staff
- Support educators and staff stability and well-being

In addition to mitigating the effects of the pandemic, the shortfall in state funding to Colorado schools...
ESSER FACT SHEETS

Points that are emphasized:

- Funds are one-time
- Funding cliff exists
- Funds are to address COVID-related issues or challenges
- Decisions on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources are inherently and intentionally local

ESSER I — Addressing the immediate crisis

Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022

In March 2020, the CARES Act established the Education Stabilization Fund, which initially provided funding for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) I Fund. ESSER I Fund dollars were appropriated to states based on the 2019-20 Title I shares with 90% allocated to local education agencies (LEAs) that received a Title I allocation in the most recent fiscal year and the remaining 10% for a state reserve fund. ESSER I funding for East Grand 2 was based on its Title I allocation and an ESSER I supplemental made by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). View CDE’s Federal COVID Education Funding website for additional details.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CDE administered the district and charter needs inventory from late March to early April. Statewide, the top four education supports identified as the top priorities across all regions of the state were: student emotional support; technical support for delivering remote learning; online instructional support for teachers; and family engagement practices. While there was variability in the top community need identified across regions, internet connectivity and food access were the two community needs that commonly appeared as a top need in most regions across the state. The following chart summarizes the percentages of districts selecting the following education supports as top needs during March and April 2020.
ESSER FACT SHEETS

Reminding the public of priorities during ESSER I timeframe

Top 3 Investment Priorities are highlighted

District specific detail pulled from CDE reports

It is also important to recognize that the decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The following information demonstrates the top ESSER I investment priorities for East Grand 2 based on March 2022 CDE data and is subject to change as local priorities evolve to meet student needs.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1: Meeting basic needs: providing school meals regardless of educational setting

Healthy eating is important for child and adolescent growth, development, well-being, and academic performance. According to the April 2020 Colorado District Needs Inventory, while there was variability in the top community needs identified across regions, food access was rated as one of the highest rated community needs across the state.

Our district prioritized the following as one of our top investments made with ESSER I funding: Nutritional services personnel ($25,000). Due to COVID 19 we have the need to use our funds on nutritional services personnel from March 13 until the end of school as it was important for the continuity of providing our students with a nutritional lunch for the days we were providing distance learning and throughout the school calendar year.
ESSER FACT SHEETS

Student and district characteristics are provided

Directing the public to the district's website for additional details

West Grand 1-JT Student and District Characteristics

Students: 393  
Rural: Yes, Small rural  
Free and Reduced Lunch: 33%  
Special Education: 11%  
Gifted and Talented: 1%  
BOCES: Northwest BOCES

Other Funding Facts

2019-2020 Total Program Funding: $4,466,541.83  ($10,025.91 Per Pupil Funding)
2020-2021 Total Program Funding: $4,182,166.24  ($9,771.42 Per Pupil Funding)
2021-2022 Total Program Funding: $4,650,491.54  ($11,025.35 Per Pupil Funding)
Local Share: 40%
State Share: 60%
Loss in state share for the 2020-21 school year: -$612,232
Loss in state share for the 2021-22 school year: -$293,136
Cumulative loss in state share since 2009-10: -$5,196,617

Learn more at the West Grand 1-JT website: www.wgsd.us

May 2022

May 5, 2022
NEXT STEPS?

- Reaching out to all school districts in early May

Want more information: Visit cosfp.org and fill out the information form or click here.
QUESTIONS?

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