

ESSER/GEER Extra, Volume 22

This week's [ESSER/GEER Extra](#) includes reminders about ARP ESSER office hours, ARP ESSER application deadlines for school districts and charter schools, MOEquity requirements for school districts, stakeholder engagement, and posting local ARP ESSER plans upon approval.

All editions of [ESSER/GEER Extra](#) are archived on PDE's website, along with FAQs from previous editions of *ESSER/GEER*Extra.

ARP ESSER Office Hours Continue

PDE is offering regular virtual Office Hours for school districts and charter schools to ask questions regarding ARP ESSER planning. Office Hours are held every **Monday from 1-2 PM** and every **Thursday from 9-10 AM through Thursday, March 17**. Advance registration is required. [Register for PDE Office Hours](#).

REMINDER: ARP ESSER Application Deadline for School Districts and Charter Schools

There are nearly 300 school districts and charter schools still working on their ARP ESSER applications. Those entities are encouraged to complete and submit applications to PDE as soon as possible—no later than March 1, 2022—to ensure that PDE has adequate time to conduct reviews and issue approvals. **Federal law requires PDE to make all ARP ESSER awards to school districts and charter schools by March 24, 2022—one year from the date PDE received these funds. Funds cannot be awarded to school districts or charter schools after that date.**

MOEquity Interim Reporting Submission by School Districts

On January 27, school districts received an email from the ARP ESSER RA-Account with instructions for certifying a relevant exemption from the ARP Act's MOEquity requirement. (Note: This email was sent only to school districts, as no other LEAs must comply with the requirement.)

This is a reminder that all school districts must complete the Interim Reporting Form in eGrants by February 28, 2022, either certifying that a relevant exemption applies for 2021-22 or indicating that no exemptions apply for 2021-22 and that the district will comply with MOEquity requirements. This needs to be done under the Reporting and Guidelines section in your ARP ESSER application in eGrants by following the Interim Reports link and clicking "Create." You do not need to submit supporting documentation with the certification but should maintain such documentation in case it is requested during an audit or monitoring review.

Additional information is available in [ESSER/GEER Extra \(pa.gov\)](#) and in the [ARP ESSER FAQs](#).

Don't Forget the Stakeholder Consultation!

The ARP Act requires recipients of ARP ESSER funding to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders. LEAs are specifically required to engage with stakeholders in the development of the LEA Plan for the Use of ARP ESSER Funds.

Under the ARP Act, stakeholders include students, families, school and district administrators (including special education administrators), teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.

In addition, the LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following to the extent present in or served by the LEA: tribes; civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and 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.

For additional information, please see the [ARP ESSER Guidebook](#) section titled "Consultation with Stakeholders."

Post your ARP ESSER LEA Plan When Approved by PDE

The ARP Act requires LEAs to publicly post local ARP ESSER plans. The eGrants application components satisfy the content requirements for the LEA Plan. Once an eGrants application is approved by PDE, the LEA may choose to make the language more family friendly and accessible to diverse audiences prior to posting online.

Contact Us

If you have an ESSER-related question or comment, please send your inquiries to ra-edarpesser@pa.gov