

ESSER/GEER Extra, Volume 27

This week's [ESSER/GEER Extra](#) focuses on ARP ESSER awards, ESSER data reporting, posting of ARP ESSER LEA plans, and upcoming opportunities for ESSER-related guidance.

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

ARP ESSER Awards to School Districts and Charter Schools

The March 24 deadline for PDE to make the ARP ESSER awards to school districts and charter schools has come and gone. Thank you for all of your work in getting your application completed and submitted.

While the ARP ESSER funds have all been awarded to school districts and charter schools, please note that many entities are still required to provide additional information to PDE—such as prior approval forms. If your ARP ESSER application was conditionally approved, please provide the additional information as soon as possible—final approval cannot occur until this information is received.

Additionally, school districts and charter schools **may continue to adjust** their ARP ESSER plans after awards have been made. Changes must be submitted in writing, via email, to your PDE Division of Federal Programs Regional Coordinator.

ESSER Reporting Is Coming!

To comply with the U.S. Department of Education's (USDE's) ESSER data collection requirements and timelines, PDE will release the ESSER annual data collection template and instructions to the field next week. **LEAs will have until April 29 to complete and submit the data collection request to PDE.**

PDE is currently finalizing the template and instructions for release next week; in the meantime, we encourage all entities receiving ESSER funds (through the CARES Act, CRRSA Act, and/or the ARP Act) to review the [USDE data collection template](#) to understand the types of financial and other information that will be collected this spring.

This ESSER annual data collection will generally cover ESSER expenditures made during the 2020-21 fiscal year. LEAs should be expected to report their expenditures of all ESSER funds (broken down into each individual ESSER allocation), and to report at a more granular level on some items such as the expenditures related to hiring/retention of certain staff positions and the number of students from specific subgroups participating in certain activities, such as afterschool programs.

Due to the fact that the bulk of the ESSER dollars under all three federal statutes went to school districts and charter schools, those entities will have the greatest reporting burden, however, IUs, CTCs, PRRIs, APSS, and other LEAs receiving ESSER funds will need to provide responses to certain questions as well.

Don't forget to join PDE's weekly Office Hours if you have questions about ESSER reporting (see below for more information).

LEAs will have until April 29, 2022, to complete and submit the information to PDE. The ESSER data collection has been added to the PIMS collection calendar. The calendar indicates a deadline of April 7,

2022; however, this is simply to encourage folks to begin and complete the data collection early. **You will have until April 29 to complete the data collection request.**

Don't Forget to 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.

ESSER Guidance

PDE Office Hours: PDE ESSER office hours will continue beyond March 17, 2022, to allow entities to continue to ask questions about revisions to ESSER applications and to provide assistance with ESSER annual reporting. These office hours will continue to be held every **Monday from 1-2 PM** and every **Thursday from 9-10 AM**. [Join the office hours.](#)

U.S. Department of Labor to Host Federal Prevailing Wage Compliance Seminars: The U.S. Department of Labor will offer online compliance seminars for contracting agencies, contractors, unions, workers and other stakeholders to provide information on the requirements governing payment of prevailing wages on federally funded construction and service contracts. These Davis-Bacon Act compliance Q&As are scheduled for March 29, June 14 and Sept. 13. [Access more information about the DOL Prevailing Wage Seminars and register.](#)

PAFPC Annual Conference: The PA Association of Federal Programs Coordinators (PAFPC) Annual Conference will be held April 3-6, 2022. The conference will cover all things federal funding, including information about ESSER and ESSER performance reporting. [Register for the PAFPC conference.](#)