

## ESSER/GEER Extra, Volume 23

This week's [ESSER/GEER Extra](#) includes reminders of ARP ESSER office hours; the March 1 ARP ESSER application deadline for school districts and charter schools; the February 28 MOEquity reporting deadline for school districts; and the final ESSER data collection template from the U.S. Department of Education (USDE).

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

### **REMINDER: Only One Week Until the March 1 ARP ESSER Application Deadline**

Nearly 250 school districts and charter schools are still working on their ARP ESSER applications. School districts and charter schools must submit these applications no later than March 1, 2022, to ensure that PDE has adequate time to conduct reviews and issue approvals. **As a reminder, Federal law requires PDE to make all ARP ESSER awards to school districts and charter schools by March 24, 2022. Funds cannot be awarded to school districts or charter schools after that date.**

Additionally, if prior approval is required for your school entity's expenditures ([see 2 CFR §200.407 for a list of items that required prior approval](#)), a prior approval form must be completed and submitted to eGrants with your ARP ESSER application. Your ARP ESSER application will not be approved without a prior approval form, where necessary, and your prior approval form for an ARP ESSER expenditure will not be reviewed separately from your ARP ESSER application.

### **REMINDER: School District MOEquity Submission Due by February 28**

**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 submission must 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.

### **Final ESSER Data Collection Template Released**

USDE released its ESSER data collection template earlier this month. USDE's final template outlines the obligations of PDE and LEAs in reporting ESSER fund use.

The template requires LEAs and other entities receiving ESSER funds (under the CARES Act, the CRRSA Act, and/or the ARP Act) to report detailed information about how the funds were spent, what percentage of the funds were spent, and how much of the funds are remaining, in addition to information about the student populations who participated in some of the programs developed or expanded with the funds.

**LEAs must report this information to PDE no later than April 29, 2022.** PDE is building a process for collecting this information. In the meantime, LEAs should review the USDE data collection template and begin working to ensure they have the information necessary to complete the template. [Access the USDE template for ESSER data collection](#)

### **ARP ESSER Office Hours Continue**

School districts and charter schools are invited to join PDE each week during our virtual Office Hours 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](#).

### **Contact Us**

If you have an ESSER-related question or comment, please send your inquiries to [ra-edarpesser@pa.gov](mailto:ra-edarpesser@pa.gov).