

ESSER Year 4 Reporting FAQ

Introduction

On January 29, 2024, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) published bulletin B007-24 outlining all materials and requirements for the mandatory Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Federal Data Reporting. The bulletin launched the beginning of a four-month long collection period for all Washington School Districts.

In partnership with school districts OSPI structured an introductory webinar as well as drop-in office hours during the month of February. During this time OSPI staff have worked to put together a culmination of current questions districts have regarding the survey and data collection process.

If any of the details below do not answer your questions please reach out to [Robin Howe, ESSER Project Manager](#), and she will be happy to assist.

Q&A

1. For questions #10 and #11 is OSPI referring to the overall amount or just the awarded/expended amount during the reporting period?

Its aggregate spend, not spend for the current reporting period. The district needs to report on all expenditures of ESSER funds by the listed activities since the school district gained access to the award.

2. How should districts handle reporting indirect for questions #5 and #7?

The district only has one indirect rate for the ESSER grants for each school year. Districts should apply the rates for the current reporting period (7/1/22-6/30/23) for the overall breakdown. The final amount should match what is reported on the LEA Fiscal Supporting Reporting Data.

3. For questions #42 – 44 what is the definition of a community school?

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act defines a full-service community school as a public elementary school or secondary school that (A) participates in a community-based effort to coordinate and integrate educational, developmental, family, health, and other comprehensive services through community-based organizations and public and private partnerships; and (B) provides access to such services in school to students, families, and the community, such as access during the school year (including before-and after-school hours and weekends), as well as during the summer. Evidence-based community school approaches include integrated student supports, active family and community engagement, expanded learning time opportunities, and collaborative leadership and practices.



4. If a question does not directly state which funding it is addressing, is it referring to any type of funding or only ESSER?

Questions that do not directly call out what funding type or what period should be treated as though they are referring only to ESSER I, II, and/or III for the current reporting period (7/1/22-6/30/23). That is partially dependent on what funds a district had left to utilize during the reporting period.

5. What is the current reporting period? Are there times when data will fall outside of that range?

The current reporting period spans from 7/1/22-6/30/23. Select questions specify a range broader than the current reporting period, they are: 10, 11, 19, 23, and 24.

6. What is ARP?

ARP stands for the American Rescue Plan Act which is the official term for ESSER III.

7. Is question #8 supposed to reference question #6 or a different question?

A typo was found within the survey and has been corrected. Question #8 is referencing the other category of question #7.

8. What do I do if I can't access the materials that are linked in the bulletin?

[Email Robin Howe, ESSER Project Manager](#), and she can send you hard copies of all the documents. Districts can also find all documents uploaded on the [Emergency Relief Funding Priorities page of the OSPI website](#).

9. Do Educational Service Districts (ESD) need to fill out this survey?

No, this survey is directed only towards districts and is to capture the way in which districts utilized their funds under ESSER guidance from the Department of Education.

10. Within the reporting for ESSER funds, are districts also including any funds they received from OSPI regarding a grant award?

No, this survey is only capturing funds that were directly given to districts for ESSER I, II, and III. This survey does not include any funds districts may have gained through grant programs with OSPI.

11. For questions #5 and #7 there are only four categories, does the other category capture activities for mental health, physical safety, and other elements claimed?

Yes, anything that falls outside of the four categories established in the questions will automatically go into the other category. There are also no requirements besides the 20% of ESSER III that has to be used only for learning loss. There can be instances where a district has no funds that fall under summer enrichment or afterschool programs. A district is also able to spend more than the 20% on learning loss and so that number can be higher than the amount awarded for that category.