Timeline of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER)

- **March 27, 2020**: ESSER I – CARES legislation passed (legislation, summary, reports, CARES Spending Map)
- **April 22, 2021**: ED COVID-19 Handbook released; Roadmap to Reopening Safely and Meeting All Students’ Needs
- **April 24, 2021**: Updated CDC Summer Camps Guidance

2020

- **March 27, 2020**: ESSER I - CARES legislation passed (legislation, summary, reports). CARES Spending Map
- **March 29, 2021**: March 24, 2021
- **March 11, 2021**: ESSER II - ARP passed (legislation, summary, reports), Allocation
- **March 22, 2021**: ESSER II Funds released to states
- **March 24, 2021**: ESSER III Funds (2/3 of total - $181 billion) released to states, Allocation
- **March 29, 2021**: ED webinar w/ Deputy Asst Sec. of Education Jessica Cardichon: Addressing the Impact of Covid-19 through School and Community Health

2021

- **January 5, 2021**: ESSER I Funds released to states
- **February 12, 2021**: ESSER I funds released
- **March 5, 2021**: Spring 2020
- **March 11, 2021**: ESSER II Funds released to states
- **March 19, 2021**: Updates to CDC Guidance on Reopening Schools
- **March 24, 2021**: ESSER III Funds (2/3 of total) released
- **Spring 2021**: ESSER I funds released to states
- **Spring 2021**: ESSER II Funds released to states
- **April 5, 2021**: ED COVID-19 Handbook released
- **April 8, 2021**: Release: Roadmap to Reopening Safely and Meeting All Students’ Needs
- **April 22, 2021**: Interim Final Rule: Requirements for ESSER III funds
- **April 24, 2021**: Updated CDC Summer Camps Guidance

2022

- **May 2021**: States expected to have awarded ESSER I funds within 60 days of receipt from ED or have an explanation for delay (see March 24, 2021)
- **May 6, 2021**: ED begins first in an ongoing series of "Office Hours"
- **May 24, 2021**: Comments on Interim Final Requirements Due May 26, 2021

2023

- **May 2021**: ESSER I funds are available for obligation by SEA, LEA, or other sub-recipient (this includes the Tydings period)

2024

- **September 30, 2022**: Last date ESSER I funds are available for obligation by SEA, LEA, or other sub-recipient
- **September 30, 2023**: Last date ESSER II funds are available for obligation by SEA, LEA, or other sub-recipient (this includes the Tydings period)
- **September 30, 2024**: Last date ESSER III funds are available for obligation by SEA, LEA, or other sub-recipient (this includes the Tydings period)

2025

- **September 30, 2024**: Last date ESSER III funds are available for obligation by SEA, LEA, or other sub-recipient

**Terms**

- **ED**: U.S. Department of Education
- **ESSER**: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds provided in pandemic relief bills
- **CARES**: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act passed in March 2020 that included first ESSER, or ESSER I
- **CRRSA**: Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, pandemic relief bill providing ESSER II
- **ARP**: American Rescue Plan, pandemic relief bill passed in March 2021, providing ESSER III

**Interim Final Rule**: The ED issued an interim final rule on April 22, 2021, outlining guidance and process state and local agencies must follow in ARP ESSER planning

**Award**: Refers to funds moving from the SEA to LEA or other sub-recipient

**Obligate**: A legally binding commitment is in place for funds to be spent on a particular purpose (e.g., an agreement to pay a staff person for a time period of 3 years preserves the money toward this purpose, but does not require the funds leave the account at all once)

**NOTE**: State reporting periods on the use of these funds occur throughout this timeline.

**COLOR KEY**: Legislation, Fund Release, Funds Deadline, Action Deadline, Other (Including regulations and guidance)