

Georgia ARP ESSER State Plan Highlights

Total ARP ESSER allocation for Georgia: \$4,252,431,691

ARP ESSER funding released to Georgia on March 24, 2021: \$2,832,914,163

ARP ESSER funding released to Georgia on July 22, 2021: \$1,419,517,528

2020-2021 Preliminary Statewide Enrollment: 1,730,015

Top Priorities within Georgia plan:

- Accelerating learning by identifying the academic impact of lost instructional time
- Personalizing supports for students, educators, and districts to recover from COVID-19
- Promoting opportunity by ensuring a 21st century standard of learning

Highlights of Georgia's Plan:

- **Returning to In Person Learning in 2021:** Georgia will return to fully in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.
- **Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations:** In partnership with the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) provided timely and accurate prevention and mitigation practices to school districts. At the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, GaDOE established a K-12 Public Health Liaison to coordinate public health efforts with school districts, DPH, and the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA). GaDOE's Public Health Liaison consults with state health officials on a weekly basis.
- **Understanding the Impact of the Pandemic:** GaDOE provided and encouraged school districts to continue formative assessments to identify learning gaps over the last year, and school districts will use this data to target resources and support. In addition, the Georgia Student Health Survey will collect information on non-academic barriers to learning, including lack of housing or transportation, to provide a better understanding of the impact of COVID-19.
- **Addressing the Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time:** GaDOE's evidence-based interventions will include deploying the state's Continuous Improvement Teams, designed to support schools by increasing bandwidth, infrastructure, and equipment for students and educators, creating and curating standards-aligned instructional resources and courses, and provide responsive and relevant professional learning.
- **Investing in Summer Learning and Expanded Afterschool Programs:** GaDOE will use ARP ESSER funds this summer to provide evidence-based summer learning and enrichment programs and afterschool programs for students across the state. In order to ensure that programming is widely available and of a high caliber that will promote recovery and future academic and development success, the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN) will administer the Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grants. The BOOST program will offer three-year grants, renewed annually to community-based organizations that operate comprehensive out-of-school time (OST) programming over the summer months, after school during the academic year, or year-round, with the goal of providing evidence-based programming focusing on academic and non-academic barriers for students most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. GaDOE will grant \$45 million to organizations with statewide reach and impact that

operate year-round programming and would serve at least 2,000 youth annually across at least 15 counties, and \$40 million to 100-120 community driven organizations operating afterschool and summer learning programs.

- **When Georgia's LEA Use of Funds Plans were due: July 9, 2021**