

### West Virginia ARP ESSER State Plan Highlights

Total ARP ESSER allocation for West Virginia: \$761,960,095

ARP ESSER funding released to West Virginia on March 24, 2021: \$507,611,952

ARP ESSER funding released to West Virginia on July 15, 2021: \$254,348,143

2020-2021 Preliminary Statewide Enrollment: 253,447

#### **Top Priorities within West Virginia's plan:**

- Addressing the social and academic issues of students
- Addressing the significant number of secondary learners that failed to earn credits
- Addressing the decline in academic performance as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

#### **Highlights of West Virginia's Plan:**

- **Returning to In Person Learning in 2021:** Barring any significant change in COVID-19 infection rates for the State, it is the expectation of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) that all 55 districts will provide in-person instruction 5 days per week when the 2021-2022 school year begins.
- **Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations:** In preparation of the 2020-2021 school year, the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) developed a Roadmap-to-Recovery that outlines the rules under which schools operate during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Roadmap document has been updated regularly, and is available for public comment now. West Virginia began a campaign encouraging high school students to get vaccinated in April 2021, which included hosting student vaccination clinics and engaging students and families on social media and will continue into the Fall of 2021.
- **Addressing the Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time:** Districts in West Virginia will implement evidence-based interventions to address the impact of lost instructional time on students, including meeting the needs of students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. WVDE will also support its districts by expanding state Technical Assistance Centers (TAC), which will support these interventions through professional development programs. WVDE will bolster three existing TACs by establishing two additional TACs using ARP ESSER funds that focus on Grades 6-12 STEM, and student support and wellbeing.
- **Supporting Students' and Educators' Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs:** WVDE has made districts aware that ESSER funds may be used to support mental health services and programs for staff to address stress or trauma brought on by COVID-19 and its impacts on communities.
- **When West Virginia LEA Use of Funds Plans will be due:** August 1, 2021