A Checklist of Allowable Fund Uses Under ESSER

Enacted in March 2021 as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP), the **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)** provides nearly $122 billion to schools across the United States.

ESSER II and III legislation specifies that funds can be used to address learning loss and learning recovery. Your district has the challenge of finding the best way to spend funds, implementing meaningful programs, and understanding how to measure the success of those programs.

Use this checklist of allowable fund uses under ESSER to help ensure your decision falls in line with the specifics detailed in legislation.

Activities allowed by:

- [ ] Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
- [ ] Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)
- [ ] Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA)
- [ ] Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins CTE)

- [ ] Develop strategies and implement public health protocols (in line with guidance from the CDC to the greatest extent possible) to reopen and operate schools to effectively maintain the health of students and staff;

- [ ] Coordinating and response efforts to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19;

- [ ] Training and professional development on sanitizing and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;

- [ ] Supplies to sanitize and clean the District's facilities;

- [ ] Improving and/or repairing the District's facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards;

- [ ] Improve indoor air quality;

- [ ] Addressing the needs of children from low-income families, children that have disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, homeless students, and children that are in foster care;

- [ ] Procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of the District, including developing and implementing those procedures;

- [ ] Planning and/or implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students and providing technology for online learning;

- [ ] Educational technology for students that aid in interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment;

- [ ] Mental health services and supports, including implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools and the hiring of counselors;

- [ ] Summer learning and supplemental after-school programs, including planning and the implementation of those programs;

- [ ] Activities that address learning loss; and

- [ ] Any other activities that are necessary to maintain operation and services provided by the District, including continuing to employ existing staff or hiring new staff.