



### What is ARP ESSER III?

On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act signed into law. The ARP ESSER III funding from the ARP Act provides support for the K-12 schools with a total of nearly \$122 billion to States and school districts to help safely open and sustain the safe operations of schools and address the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation’s students. Funds can be used for:

- coordinating preparedness and response efforts with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19;
- training and professional development on sanitizing and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;
- purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the LEA’s facilities;
- repairing and improving school facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards;
- improving indoor air quality;
- addressing the needs of children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth;
- developing and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students and providing technology for online learning;
- purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including students from low-income families and children with disabilities;
- providing mental health services and supports, including through implementation of evidence based full-service community schools and the hiring of counselors; planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs;
- addressing learning loss; and
- other activities that are necessary to maintain operation of and continuity of and services, including continuing to employ existing or hiring new LEA and school staff

[Find out more about ARP ESSER III at the Colorado Department of Education Website](#)

Weld RE-9 School District sought public input in the Spring and Summer of 2021 to help plan and prioritize how to use the \$1,043,560 ESSER III funding and received an additional \$45,512 in ESSER III supplemental funding.