



**Abilene ISD
Use of Funds Plan
2021-2022**

The ARP ESSER III grant program is authorized in the American Rescue Plan Act (AR), signed into law in March 2021. The purpose of ESSER III in general is to award subgrants to local educational agencies (LEAs) to address the impact that COVID-19 has had and continues to have on elementary and secondary schools.

Amount	Abilene ISD is allocated to receive \$42,071,315 in ESSER III funds. The initial allocation amount of \$28,047,543 is two-thirds of the total allocation. The remaining one-third allocation of \$14,023,772 will be received later.
Availability of Funds	March 13, 2020- September 30, 2024
Stakeholder Input	<p>Stakeholder input is important for the use of ESSER funds. The district gave several opportunities for various stakeholders to give input.</p> <p>Stakeholders included students, families, school and district administration, teachers, staff, and other school leaders. Efforts were made to include civil rights organizations and stakeholders representing the interest of children with disabilities, English language learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migrant students, and other underserved students.</p> <p>The following is a list of the opportunities given for stakeholder input:</p> <p>Input Surveys (May 19, 2021-May 26, 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Student Survey *Parents and Community/Business *Abilene ISD Staff <p>Notices in the Abilene Reporter News</p> <p>Notices on our AISD website and social media outlets</p>

	<p>On May 19, 2021</p> <p>Public Forum (May 26, 2021 @ 4:30 P.M.)</p> <p>ZOOM Public Forum (May 26, 2021 @ 5:15 P.M.)</p> <p>Public Hearing/Board Meeting (June 7, 2021)</p>
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The input given by stakeholders were consistent and of the same thought as to activities that would be best to consider when using the funds allocated. The district must reserve at least 20% of the funds to address learning loss. After reviewing the input given by all stakeholders, the following are the top priorities which Abilene ISD will focus on and percentage of ESSER III funds in each priority.

Priorities	Description of Items	Percentage of ESSER Funds Used
Learning Loss	<p>Abilene ISD students experienced extensive learning loss as a result of the rapid transition to remote learning in March 2020. Abilene ISD will use a large percentage of ESSER III funds to address this learning loss. Activities include lowering teacher to student ratios to allow for smaller group instruction to provide intensive intervention. Additional staff will be hired to provide intervention and learning acceleration. Research-based instructional materials will be purchased to provide teachers additional activities that will support the gaps in learning. Evaluation of the interventions will occur to ensure the effectiveness of the activities.</p> <p>Abilene ISD will provide campus leaders professional development in coaching and gauging specific actions on the campus. The training and coaching is designed to utilize best practices for adult learning, deliberate modeling and observation, and feedback cycles. Professional development will include designing units with teachers to ensure effective planning is occurring to meet the varied needs of the students.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">70% (20% required)</p>

<p>Social Emotional Learning and Student Behavior</p>	<p>Abilene ISD will provide ongoing training for campus leaders and teachers in Social Emotional Learning to equip them with the knowledge and tools required to better meet the needs of students who are dealing with the most challenges in their academic and personal lives.</p> <p>Additional social workers and behavior liaisons will allow interventions with more individual students which will impact their academic success.</p>	<p>10%</p>
<p>Technology</p>	<p>Abilene ISD will purchase additional technology devices to ensure our students have the devices needed to effectively access any online instruction within the classroom or home setting. Additional classroom panels and learning space equipment will maintain continuity of services in our classrooms.</p>	<p>10%</p>
<p>Health and Safety</p>	<p>Abilene ISD will ensure the safety of staff and students by complying with all safety protocols recommended by the Center for Disease Control. Resources needed to ensure this safety will continue to be purchased to provide the needed assurance to families and staff.</p>	<p>10%</p>