

Ready to invest in high-quality instructional materials and professional learning?

ESSER III FUNDS CAN HELP YOU SET YOUR TEAM UP FOR SUCCESS

We know it can be **difficult to stay on top of what's happening with ESSER funding and decide how to spend remaining balances**. That's why we created this document to provide a helpful hub where educators can **keep up to date with the latest on ESSER funds, review key dates, and more**.

Using ESSER III funds for high-quality instructional materials and professional learning

High-quality instructional materials (HQIM) and professional learning (PL) aligned with those materials are cost-effective ways to spend ESSER funds for which districts are seeing a substantive return on investment.

For example, a [recent McKinsey & Company report](#) noted:



Several states and districts have seen accelerated rates of learning recovery after adopting high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) and aligned professional development... HQIM paired with high-quality aligned professional development have demonstrated effectiveness in raising students' state assessment scores. And given that HQIM are comparable in cost with low-efficacy materials (excluding the cost of switching), they are budget neutral.

CURRICULUM SUPPORT GUIDE

One of the great things about ESSER funds is that schools and systems can use them at just about every stage of the curriculum adoption and implementation process—from curriculum selection and adoption through designing and implementing PL experiences that ensure teachers and leaders have fluency with the materials and are able to get the most out of them in their classrooms.

At Instruction Partners, we know that adopting and implementing a new curriculum is no small feat—we even developed a robust [Curriculum Support Guide](#) to help districts navigate the twists and turns of the process!

Here are some ways ESSER funds can be used:



Purchase of new HQIM (including curriculum and other aligned instructional supports)



PL that offers both training and support for the new materials (e.g., overviews of how the materials work, partnerships that facilitate the development of collaborative planning routines, ongoing coaching support)



Resources and partnerships that help schools and systems use data to evaluate what's working, what's not working, and make adjustments

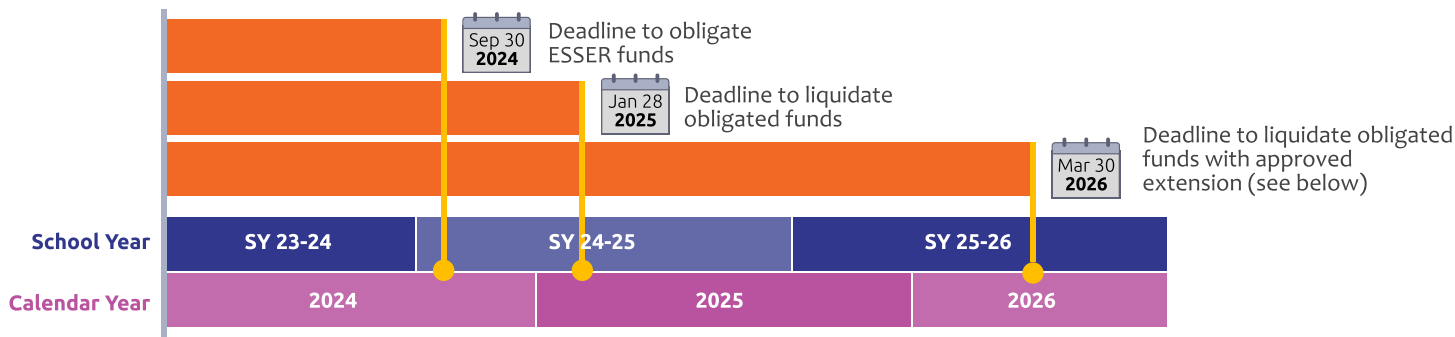


Investments in technology that supports the implementation of HQIM (e.g., laptops, software)



Spending Extension

On September 18, 2023, the U.S. Department of Education announced that schools and school systems now have an opportunity to **extend the liquidation deadline for ESSER III funds from January 28, 2025 to March 30, 2026**.



If your school or system is interested in taking advantage of the extended deadline, there are some important actions you should take:

1

Contact your state department of education and [express interest in the extension](#) as soon as possible. Schools and districts are considered subgrantees of state education agencies (SEAs), so deadline extensions run through state departments of education. See here for an [overview of the federal process](#) and [frequently asked questions](#). The recommended federal deadline for states to submit extension requests on behalf of themselves and

their LEAs is December 31, 2024. States may have their own, internal requirements for when and how LEAs should submit requests for extension, so you shouldn't wait to get the ball rolling!

2

Obligate all ESSER III funds by September 30, 2024. Even if you receive a liquidation extension for your ESSER funds, the obligation deadline for those funds has not changed.



ESSER Resources

The following resources can provide valuable information that can help you understand ESSER requirements, how districts have spent ESSER funds so far, and allowable expenditures.

The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

- [ESSER Information homepage](#)
- [January 9, 2024: ARP ESSER Liquidation Extension Letter](#)
- [Updated Technical FAQs for ARP ESSER and ARP EANS Liquidation Extensions](#)
- [ARP ESSER and ARP EANS Liquidation Extension Request template](#)
- [September 18, 2023: ARP Liquidation Extension Request Letter](#)

U.S. Department of Education Education Stabilization Fund

Ednomics

[Looking for actual ESSER spending data district by district?](#)

EdWeek

[Need More Time to Spend ESSER Funds? Contact Your State Now, Ed. Dept. Says](#)

McKinsey

[Stimulus funding deadlines loom. How are K-12 schools adjusting their priorities?](#)

Interested in learning more about how your educators can get additional support for HQIM and PL?

Learn more [here](#).