

OFERP Office Hours 10/7/21

Thursday, October 7, 2021 - 9:00am
Office of Federal Emergency Relief Programs (OFERP)

OFERP Introductions

- Shelly Chasse-Johndro, Director
- Monique Sullivan, ARP Coordinator
- Karen Kusiak, CARES & CRRSA Coordinator
- Kevin Harrington, GEER/EANS Coordinator
- Maisha Asha, Fiscal Coordinator
- Barbara Rancourt, Procurement Analyst
- Robert Palmer, Management Analyst

Today's Topics

1. Office Hours
2. ESSERF Spending
3. Periods of Allowability for ESSER
4. URLs for Publicly Available Plans
5. Construction Projects
6. PreK Expansion

Office Hours Update

Office of Federal Emergency Relief Programs
will:

- host monthly office hours on the 1st Thursday at 9:00am of each month.
- Distribute monthly a newsletter on the 15th of each month.

ESSERF Spending

U.S. Department of Education suggest a three-part framework for analyzing ESSERF spending

- Is the use of funds intended to **prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic**, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students?
- Does the use of funds fall under one of the **authorized uses of funds**?
- Is the use of funds permissible under the **Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards** (Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Part 200)? In particular, is it necessary and reasonable for the performance of the ESSER award?

Allowability & Invoicing Periods

- CARES ESSER I-
 - All allowable costs must be incurred by September 30, 2022.
 - Invoices for reimbursement must be submitted by October 15, 2022.
- CRRSA ESSER II-
 - Incurred by September 30, 2023
 - Invoiced by October 15, 2023
- ARP ESSER III –
 - Incurred by September 30, 2024
 - Invoiced by October 15, 2024

URLs

The Maine Department of Education is required, per the ARP ESSER State plan assurances, to provide the U.S. Department of Education the URL(s) for the SAU's websites where the public can find:

- The SAU's Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services plan, and
- The SAU's Use of ARP ESSER funds plan.

SAUs need to ensure that they always have the most-up-to-date plans posted on their website with easy access for public viewing.

Plan Requirements

- 1) Please make sure the Return to In-person Instruction and Use of Funds Plans are **easily identifiable and accessible** from the main page on the SAU's website, avoiding the use of links to Google documents and/or board meeting minutes.
- 2) Both plans must be **publicly available throughout the ARP funding** until September 2024.
- 3) The **Return to In-Person Instruction Plan** must include at a minimum a [description](#) of
 - a) how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and staff,
 - b) the extent to which it has adopted policies on each of the safety recommendations established by the CDC, and
 - c) how it will ensure continuity of services.
- 4) The **Use of Funds Plan** must include at a minimum a [description](#) of how the funds will be used
 - a) for implementing prevention and mitigation strategies,
 - b) to address the loss of instructional time, |
 - c) consistent with ARP allowable uses, and
 - d) interventions implemented will address the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Construction Checklist

- Items on the checklist reflect U.S. Department of Education Guidance and State Statute
- SAUs are responsible for compliance
- Checklists will be approved promptly so that invoicing may be enabled
- Consult Legal Counsel regarding compliance with Statutes

PreK Expansion

Maine SAUs interested in using their ARP ESSER III funds to expand PreK programs are encouraged to attend the informational session listed below:

An informational meeting has been scheduled for **Thursday, October 7 from 3-5pm**. Those wishing to learn more about the Pre-K Expansion RFA and ask questions can attend through this [link](#). This meeting will be recorded and made available on the Department's Early Childhood [Professional Learning and Resources](#) page.

Priority Notice- [“Grant Funds Available to Support the Expansion of Public Pre-K”](#)

Q & A

Please unmute yourself or use the chat to ask questions!



Resources

- [ARP-ESSER Application Instructions](#)
- [Return to School Roadmap](#)
- [ARP Law](#)
- [ARP ESSER Interim Final Rule](#)
- [US ED APR ESSER](#)
- [Use of Funds FAQ](#)
- [Maine's Federal Emergency Relief Programs](#)

Contact Information

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