



What is ESSER?

As a means of addressing the unprecedented challenges facing school systems across the U.S. due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress approved three rounds of federal stimulus funding to be allocated to schools through the **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund**:

- **ESSER I:** Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (*Signed into law on March 20, 2020*)
- **ESSER II:** Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act (*Signed into law on December 27, 2020*)
- **ESSER III (ARP):** American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act (*Signed into law on March 11, 2021*)





While all ESSER funds have several requirements and associated restrictions regulating their allowable use, ESSER II and ESSER III require the development of specific spending plans. Through these two relief packages, M-DCPS will receive approximately **\$1.2 billion** to assist in COVID-19 response and recovery over the next three years.



Why does M-DCPS need your help?

M-DCPS staff has drafted a preliminary spending plan for the use of ESSER funds based on the priorities identified in *Infinite Possibilities*, the District’s 2021-2026 Strategic Plan, which was informed by significant public input captured through a community-wide survey and over 50 focus groups. We are eager to engage in additional dialogue with students, families, and school/district administrators, as well as teachers, principals, other educators, school staff, and their unions regarding the use of ESSER funds over the next several years. M-DCPS will gather stakeholder input regarding our proposed spending plan through various means, including School Board Workshops, focus groups, a Town Hall, and email communications. Prior to submission to the Florida Department of Education, the M-DCPS spending plan will be presented to the School Board for additional feedback and approval. The following are elements of the preliminary plan for which we are seeking public input.

ESSER II & ESSER III SPENDING CATEGORIES

Category	Examples	ESSER II	ESSER III	%
 Accelerate Learning	Summer school, tutoring	\$ 135,516,352	\$ 363,126,728	42%
 Promote Mental & Physical Health	Social emotional learning (SEL), mental health, building and air quality (HVAC) upgrades	52,689,441	266,448,400	27%
 Prepare for & Avoid Potential Future Closures	Learning Management System, cybersecurity, online school	43,336,745	87,436,906	11%
 Maintain Operations & Retain Existing Staff	Professional development, strategic staffing	135,091,106	106,305,897	20%
		\$ 366,633,644	\$ 823,317,931	100%



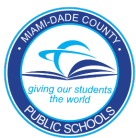
Miami-Dade County Public Schools COVID-19 Federal Relief Funds – Spending Plan

ACCELERATE LEARNING

Initiative	Investment (in millions)	Source	Timeline			
			20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Hourly funds for K-12 interventionists and tutors	\$ 30.0	ESSER III		X	X	
At-home homework help	2.9	ESSER III		X	X	X
Expansion of afterschool enrichment programs	20.0	ESSER III		X	X	
Instructional materials for tiered interventions	55.0	ESSER II		X		
Eight-period day expansion for two years	40.0	ESSER III		X	X	
ETO support	21.1	ESSER III		X	X	
Reading & Math coaches for Tier 1 schools for two years	17.0	ESSER III		X	X	
CTE career pathways for at-risk students	2.0	ESSER III		X	X	
Extended summer school for 2021 & 2022 summers	120.5	ESSER II, III		X	X	
Additional VPK classes	4.5	ESSER III		X	X	
Teach For America Contract	1.1	ESSER III		X	X	X
Expedited Screenings & Evaluations (Gifted/ESE/ESOL/MTSS)	14.5	ESSER III	X	X	X	X
Student attendance and enrollment campaigns	7.5	ESSER II		X	X	
Hourly attendance & enrollment specialists at schools	5.5	ESSER II		X	X	
Summer Heat Reimagined (teacher training)	2.1	ESSER III			X	
Additional PD for teachers (SEL, unfinished learning, blended learning, etc.) and principals	8.4	ESSER III		X	X	X
Temporary Instructor Pool/Training	0.1	ESSER III		X	X	
Teacher technology in classrooms	33.5	ESSER III		X		
Mobile devices for students	100.5	ESSER III		X	X	X
Student information system	10.0	ESSER III			X	X
Wi-Fi on buses	2.5	ESSER III			X	X

PROMOTE MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH

Initiative	Investment (in millions)	Source	Timeline			
			20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
COVID-safe student events	\$ 1.2	ESSER II	X			
Enhanced cleaning supplies	20.0	ESSER III		X	X	X
Indoor air quality and building envelope improvements	200.0	ESSER III		X	X	X
Cost of student food distribution that has taken place	1.6	ESSER II	X			
Virus transmission training for Food Service & Transportation staff	4.0	ESSER III		X		



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Employee COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccination costs	43.7	ESSER II	X			
Continue to provide nurses and health service technicians	6.0	ESSER II		X		
Implementation of healthcare hubs for students	15.0	ESSER III			X	X
Contracted mental health professionals	8.2	ESSER III		X	X	X
Hourly counselors	14.2	ESSER III		X	X	
Mental health awareness training for staff	3.0	ESSER III		X		
Social Emotional Learning & Wellness programs	2.0	ESSER III			X	X

PREPARE FOR & AVOID POTENTIAL FUTURE CLOSURES

Initiative	Investment (in millions)	Source	Timeline			
			20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Implementation of & course content development for LMS	\$ 12.8	ESSER II		X	X	
Establish self-run online school (Miami-Dade Virtual)	6.0	ESSER III	X	X	X	
Improved external communications	0.4	ESSER III			X	X
Technology improvements for School Board communications	0.6	ESSER III		X		
System upgrades for central office & school communications	1.3	ESSER III		X	X	X
Cybersecurity & associated training	30.5	ESSER II, III		X	X	X
School network infrastructure upgrade	74	ESSER III		X		
Online student registration system	1.0	ESSER III			X	X
Bus route navigation system	0.7	ESSER III			X	
Touchless universal student identification cards	3.5	ESSER III		X	X	

MAINTAIN OPERATIONS & RETAIN EXISTING STAFF

Initiative	Investment (in millions)	Source	Timeline			
			20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Strategic redeployment of instructional staff based on student/school need	\$ 20.0	ESSER II		X		
Reading and ESE certification institute	0.8	ESSER III		X	X	X
Additional contract position for Audits support	0.3	ESSER III		X	X	X
Additional positions for Region support	1.5	ESSER III		X	X	X
Custodian expenses for 2020-21	86.8	ESSER II	X			
Additional hourly custodians for 2021-22 school year	12.5	ESSER II		X		
Stipends for PD & tasks beyond the workday	60.0	ESSER III		X	X	X