

Ropes ISD

ARP ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

The ARP ESSER III grant program is authorized in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP), signed into law in March 2021. The period of availability for ARP ESSER III grant funds is from March 13, 2020 (with pre-award), to September 30, 2024 (with carryover). The intent and purpose of the ARP Act of 2021, ESSER III funding is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students.

Ropes ISD will be utilizing their Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER) allocation over the course of the grant period:

- 2020-2021
- 2021-2022
- 2022-2023
- 2023-2024

For the following proposed items as identified by stakeholders under the minimum 20% required set-aside:

- Salaries of instructional staff to address the academic impact of lost instructional time among LEA students and respond to their academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.
- Tutoring: salaries and/or resources
- Summer School: salaries and/or resources

For the following proposed items as identified by stakeholders for the remaining funds:

- Instructional technology
- Salaries of content educators
- Professional and Contracted Services to assist in learning loss

Section 18006 of the CARES Act (ESSER I) and Section 315 of the CRRSA Act (ESSER II) require, to the greatest extent practicable, entities that receive funds to continue to pay their employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to coronavirus. Further, Section 18003(d)(12) of the CARES Act, Section 313(d)(14) of the CRRSA Act, and Section 2001(e)(2)(R) of the ARP Act (ESSER III) allow ESSER funds to support “other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local education agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA.”