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<https://www.lakeforestschoools.org/Page/1346> (Return to In Person)

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**Lake Forest Community High School District 115
ESSER III Return to School Continuity Plan**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Department of Education has released three grants for which local education agencies can apply. These grants, known as ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III, were authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act); the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA); and the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

**Allowable Expenses:**

- Purchase cleaning supplies
- Educational technology
- Mental health supports
- Supplementary learning
- Added needs for at risk population
- Transportation
- Coordinated services for long term closures
- Professional development
- Other grant allowable expenses
- McKinney Vento Expenses
- Parent education
- Learning loss (Required for ESSER III)
- Improving air quality
- Improving facilities
- Implementing public health acts
- Module classrooms

Information about ESSER funds received by Lake Forest Community School District 115 may be found below.

CARES ACT: ESSER I

In March 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into law. The CARES Act dedicated \$13.2 billion for K-12 schools through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund. This grant is known as ESSER I. The intent and purpose of ESSER I funding is to provide emergency relief funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. ESSER I funds can be used to cover expenses incurred March 13, 2020, through September 30, 2022.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plans (ARP) was signed into law. As part of ESSER III, the U.S. Department of Education is allocating an additional \$121.9 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund). Lake Forest High School District 115 was allotted a total of \$498,762 in ESSER III (ARP) with a requirement that 20% of that amount must be spent to address learning loss. Additionally, funds were allocated for state level reservations for learning loss, summer enrichment and after school activities in amounts of \$1112, \$242, and \$242, respectively.

District 115 continues to provide full in-person learning for the 2022-2023 school year. We are excited to welcome all students back to school on August 17, 2022. Our Return to School Continuity Plan describes how D115 will provide the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all students, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction. This report complies with all reporting requirements of the ARP Act (Public Law 117-2), the ESSER III grant terms, conditions, and assurances (CFDA Number 84.425U, and the interim final rule established by the United States Department of Education, 86 FR 21195.

D115 provided the public the opportunity to provide input on the development of the plan and took such input into account when developing this plan at School Board meetings and our annual Timely Meaningful Consultation Meetings.

The District's Return to School Plan is intended to be a living document that outlines efforts to support all students and evolves to meet the needs of those whose educational progress is most in jeopardy as a result of the negative impact of the pandemic.

[READ D115's Return to School Continuity Plan HERE](#)

The intent and purpose of ESSER III is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus on students.

District 115 will utilize ESSER III funds to address issues that have risen due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ESSER III funds can be used to cover expenses incurred March 13, 2020, through September 30, 2024. The chart below provides an overview of how D115 will spend its remaining funds during the 2022-2023 school year.

ESSER Grant Funds

ESSER I	ESSER II	ESSER III
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ESSER I

Amount	Description	Ideas
\$0	Public school allotment	\$38,590-All funds were spent during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 School Years.
\$0	Nonpublic School Pupil Services	\$27,095; All funds were spent during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 School Years.
	\$65,685; Total ESSER I Funds	

ESSER II

Amount	Description	Ideas
\$0	Full grant amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All funds were spent during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 School Years.
\$0	\$221,432; Total ESSER II Funds	

ESSER III

Amount	Description	Ideas
\$4500 \$5304 \$5286 \$5476	ESSER III Allocation (at least 20% of which must be used to address loss of learning)	<p><u>To Support Social, emotional and mental health needs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide the wrap-around and comprehensive services necessary to keep students connected and progressing socially, emotionally, behaviorally, and academically (21-22) <p><u>Prevention and Mitigation Strategies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To pay for an RN to support Health Services to support Covid-19 health and safety mitigation efforts. (21-22) To pay for an online credit recovery software, APEX. To purchase air purifiers, plexiglass and PPE including shields, masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, filters, wipes, table covers, Covid testing, etc to maintain safety related to Covid-19. <u>2 AEDs for West</u> <p><u>Supplies for Learning Loss</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading and math materials including APEX, Newsela and books to support learning loss To pay for teachers through our learning cards to provide hourly tutoring and counseling to meet the needs of our students post Covid-19. (21-22) <p><u>Professional Development</u> -CADA conference for 3 staff members to support the social emotional development of our students</p>
\$0	State-level reservation - Learning Loss	\$1212-Met during the 2021-2022 school year
\$0	State-level reservation - Summer Enrichment	\$242; Met during the 2021-2022 school year
\$0	State-level reservation - After-School	\$242; Met during the 2021-2022 school year
\$20,566	Total ESSER III Funds Available for the 2022-2023 School Year	

Grant Questions	
Safe Return Plan	<p>The LEA sent the Safe to Return information to all parents and staff on August 8, 2022. In alignment with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), District 115 supports the return to full in-person learning for the 2022-2023 school year. Home/Hospital Instruction (HHI) will be provided to students who are unable to attend in a school setting due to medical reasons. The District has an ongoing COVID-19 Metrics Advisory Council which is composed of parents, community members, health care workers, teachers and school administration who meet on an ongoing basis to provide insight and input into the reopening plan. Our 2022-2023 Risk Mitigation Plan reflects a layered approach and is built to flex between less restrictive and more restrictive practices based upon current local, state, and national data. The District 115 Board of Education has reviewed the plan and provided feedback that has been incorporated accordingly. At our August 9, 2022 Board meeting, parents and community members were able to provide input. The plan will be reviewed on an ongoing basis by our administration, including our Director of Safety, as well as any time new information is shared by the CDC, IDPH, and the Lake County Health Department. Screening testing will be available for any symptomatic students and staff. Please see linked document for our full plan:</p> <p>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pnd5ms_Po7MVVtgbToqXs4FSgPUBep2Fkxf-awtcT4/edit?usp=sharing</p>
ESSER Fund Plan	<p>ESSER III funds will continue to be utilized to safely reopen schools and address learning loss during the 2022-2023 school year and to pay for costs that occurred during the 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and the 2022-2023 school years related to COVID-19. Funds were used to pay for contracted staff to provide tutoring for students struggling, to provide family counseling, to pay our health services to conduct contract tracing, purchase PPE, and to pay for credit recovery during the 2020-2021 school year. The remaining funds will be used to pay for supplies, professional development opportunities, Covid expenses, health supplies, and resources to address learning loss for the 2022-2023 school year. Please see our proposed spending plan linked here:</p> <p>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bWclBb3o3fsPid9ke0T4UfypRYErjuvZAu0XWNXvj1c/edit?usp=sharing</p> <p>At our August 9, 2022 Board of Education meeting, parents and community members will be able to provide input during public comment.</p>
Use of Funds Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District 115 has administered several surveys to our faculty and staff regarding their learning experiences during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years. Additionally, we solicited input from parents, students, and community members at our Timely Meaningful Consultation, which was held in May 2022. We have collected and monitored student achievement outcomes by examining grades, engagement, social and emotionally related services and supports, and student

	<p>services and accommodations. We will also continue to use the knowledge that we already have about targeted groups of students who need additional services and support in the traditional format of school and who have been identified as needing the support as a result of the impact of COVID-19.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. We are utilizing a variety of data sources from the last two school years. We determined learning gaps through screeners and standardized assessments such as Star testing and SAT Suite of Assessments. We contract with ECRA to analyze our data and provide reports about student achievement from the past year. We also use local assessments from our curriculum to determine areas in which students will need support in the upcoming school year. District and building administrators, teachers, and support staff utilize this data to determine how to address learning gaps in the upcoming school year through class placement, interventions, and curricular modifications. 3. June 2021-August 2021: The District 115 cadre team provided instructional support to students who demonstrated learning loss. Additionally, a family interventionist provided family counseling and wrap around services for students struggling to attend school after we returned to in-person instruction. Teachers, support staff, social workers, and administrators will provide academic, social, emotional, and behavioral supports proactively to students, families, and staff who have struggled since the inception of COVID-19. 4. Not applicable 5. Not applicable 6. Funds were used to pay for PPE and resources to address learning loss for the 2021-2022 school year. Remaining funds will be used to pay for software to student student learning, professional learning, and supplies to address learning loss, to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and to support the mental health of our students during the 2022-2023 school year. Please see our proposed spending plan linked here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bWclBb3o3fsPid9ke0T4UfypRYErjuvZAU0XWNXvj1c/edit?usp=sharing
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