

ESSER SUPPLEMENTAL (ESSER SUPP) - Survey data provided by public school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to TEA indicated that a small number of school systems have more direct COVID-19 expenses and/or projected costs for learning loss recovery than they will receive under CRRSA ESSER II and ARP ESSER III formula funding.¹ To address this need, the Texas Legislature specified a mechanism for school districts and charter schools who receive insufficient amounts of ESSER II and ESSER III funds to be eligible to apply for supplemental funding.

ESSER-SUPP funding, authorized under TEC Section 29.930 as added by House Bill 1525, 87th Legislature, Regular Session, will use a portion of the state's discretionary ESSER III funding to provide additional resources to pay for unreimbursed costs due to the coronavirus pandemic and for intensive educational supports for students not performing satisfactorily. A minimum of approximately \$207 million in grant funding will be awarded in two grants during school years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 to approximately 125-150 eligible school districts and charter schools². Preliminary and final allocations will be determined by the statutory formula using Fall Snapshot Enrollment data and ESSER II and ESSER III allocation data.

The grant funds must 1) be used to meet the intent of this program as stated above, 2) be used for costs that are reasonable and necessary, and 3) meet an allowable activity under the ESSER III statute, whether used for unreimbursed COVID-19 expenses or to address accelerated instruction for learning loss and the academic impact of lost instructional time. As part of this grant application process, and like ESSER II and III, superintendents must inform their boards of the one-time nature of these federal funds. School systems should not anticipate that ongoing, replacement funds will be provided at either the federal or state level.