CARES/ESSER Funding and Supporting IB Programs in US Public Schools

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FLIBS Support and a Collective Voice

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Quick Overview: IB in the United States:

First teaching of the IB

There has been an IB World School in this country since:

- **1971**

IB World schools currently offer one or more of four IB programmes.

- **Primary Years Programme**
  - offered by 621 schools

- **Middle Years Programme**
  - offered by 719 schools

- **Diploma Programme**
  - offered by 966 schools

- **Career-related Programme**
  - offered by 147 schools
IB Schools in the United States

Public 90%

Independent 10%

Public 90%

Qualify for Federal Funds

Over 40% Federal Threshold 40%

Under 40% Federal Threshold 60%
Federal Funding & US Schooling: A Historical Root

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), 1965

Equal Opportunity & Outcomes

• Was a direct intervention by the Johnson Administration’s “War on Poverty” campaign and to further solidify the newly created Office of Civil Rights (1964) and uphold Brown v Board (1954)

• Original goal - which remains today - was to improve educational opportunity and outcomes for students from lower-income families by providing federal funds to schools serving impoverished students

• "As the son of a tenant farmer, I know that education is the only valid passport from poverty."
Federal Funding Response to C19

I. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (enacted March, 2020): $30B for Education

II. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act (enacted December, 2020): $81B for Education

III. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act (enacted April, 2021): $168.75B for Education

Due to these Acts, significant federal funds are distributed to LEAs/Districts/Schools through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund predominately, but not exclusively, for schools qualifying for federal Title funds (ESEA/ESSA)
How it works:

Under ESSER (Elementary & Secondary Emergency Relief Fund), established in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), and further funded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260 (December 27, 2020) and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2021), the U.S. Department of Education (Department) awarded grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) for the purpose of providing local educational agencies (LEAs) that receive funds under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), including charter schools that are LEAs, with emergency relief funds to address the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the Nation.
A Visual

CARES ACT  
CRRSA ACT  
ARP ACT

Relief Fund by US DoE (ESSER/ESEA)

State DoE

Districts, Charters, & Private Schools
ARP and the Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund

Breakdown:

- $123 billion for K–12 state education agencies (including $800 million for homeless children)
- 40 billion for institutions of higher education
- $2.75 billion to governors for private schools
- $3 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
ESSER, IB, & Equity

• Learning Loss

*What does the research really say?

• Inquiry

• Rigor & Relevancy

• Social & Emotional

Bottom line for IB Schools:
Any allowable use of funds under ESEA/Every School Succeeds Act (ESSA, 2015) is allowable under ESSER
Allowable Use Under ESSER

• Adding or starting an IB programme in a school

• Planning the programme (pre-work, trainings, FTEs)

• Installing curriculum changes associated with the programme (curricular materials)

• Professional Development: Training teachers and school leaders to effectively deliver the program

• Examination fees for the programme
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE LEADERS TO ADVANCE EQUITY USING FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

The COVID-19 crisis has disrupted education for all students, but has hit students from vulnerable andsystemically disadvantaged populations—students living in poverty, students with disabilities, students learning English, students experiencing homelessness, students in the foster care system, students who are incarcerated, unique student populations, and dual language learners. Farther students, and students who identify as LGBTQ+—hardest. Beyond disruptions to instruction, many of these students have faced increased, undeniable access to remote learning technology, reduced access to school supplies and education services, and housing uncertainty. Finally, inequities caused by long-standing racial variance and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic cause further stress and anxiety for students of color and expose some of the additional daily challenges they face.

In response to these crises, the federal government is providing an additional $1.9 trillion to states and school districts through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). ARPA requires states and school districts to use at least 90% of the funding they receive, regardless of, to implement evidence-based interventions to address selected learning gaps and address student academic, social, and emotional needs. This package includes $131 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and $20 billion for magnet schools; special education, students experiencing homelessness, and other federal programs—school districts which can—and should—be used for this purpose, as well. The U.S. Department of Education (ED) has provided states, making those resources available. In April, ED released a draft application for the remaining funds.

This unprecedented investment in education provides states and school districts with an once in a lifetime opportunity to bolster student outcomes prior to COVID-19. For perspective, the total investment in K-12 schools through ARP is comparable to the largest U.S. Department of Education (ED) grants in history, making those resources available. In April, ED released a draft application for the remaining funds.

American Rescue Plan Act
Summary of K-12 Education Provisions

Funding for Education
- $123 billion for K-12 state education agencies (including $800 million for homeless children)
- $48 billion for institutions of higher education
- $2.75 billion for grants for private schools
- $3 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Distribution of K-12 Funding (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund)
The amount of funding allocated to each state and district will be based on the relative amount of Title I funding the state or district receives. States are required to allocate at least 67.5 percent of their funding to school districts (including charter schools that are considered school districts).

State Set-Asides
States are required to set-aside funds from their grants for the following purposes:
- 5% to address learning loss
- 1% for evidence-based, comprehensive alternative programs
- 1% for evidence-based summer enrichment

Local Educational Agency Use of Funds
Within 30 days of receiving funding, school districts must publish a plan to spend schools for in-person instruction. In addition, at least 20% of funds must be used to address learning loss through evidence-based interventions that respond to students’ academic, social, and emotional needs. The remaining funds can be used for any allowable use under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, and Adult Education and Family Literacy Act. Funds also can be used for such purposes as:
- coordinating with public health departments;
- conducting activities to address the needs of students from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth;
- purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) as well as assistive technology or adaptive equipment;
- summer learning, and supplemental after-school programs;
- mental health services;
- addressing learning loss;
- school facility repairs to reduce risk of virus transmission and support student health;
- implementing public health protocols including policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for school reopening; and
- implementing actions to maintain the operation and continuity of services and to employ existing staff.

Maintaining State Funding
To receive funding, states must provide at least as much funding for K-12 and higher education in fiscal year 2022 as they provided in fiscal year 2019. If states reduce funding for K-12 and higher education in fiscal years 2020 and 2021, states must continue to provide at least that level of funding in fiscal year 2022.
Support Tools for Sustaining & Growing IB Programmes
Questions and Dialogue

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