

Hillsboro CUSD 3

ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

Under the [American Rescue Plan \(ARP\)](#), which became law in March 2021, school districts around the country receive funding to address the impact of COVID-19 on students' academic, social, emotional and mental health needs. This funding is known as ARP- ESSER III. ESSER III requires that districts establish Return to Learn plans.

- [District Return to Learn Plan](#)

"ESSER" is short for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief. ESSER III receives its numerical designation from the fact that the ARP ESSER Fund is the third set of COVID-related federal relief grants for schools that Congress has passed since the pandemic began.

ESSER I and ESSER II were established respectively by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in March 2020 and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act in December 2020.

How Much Money Will ESSER III Provide?

ESSER III will provide nearly \$122 billion to state educational agencies and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

HCUSD #3 is expected to receive \$3,188,260 in ESSER III funds, of which \$637,652 or 20% must be used to address learning loss. Additional funds from state reservations are also available but must address these areas: \$61,778 for summer enrichment; \$61,778 for after-school programs; and \$308,891 for learning loss. The combination of federal and state ESSER III funds is \$3,620,707.

What is the funding period for ARP- ESSER III grants?

ESSER III may be used for allowable activities from March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2024.

Use of ESSER III funds in HCUSD #3

The district plans to use its ESSER III grant money in two major areas:

- Reducing Learning Loss
- Capital Improvements

Reducing Learning Loss: \$1,070,099

Activity	Rationale
Summer School	166,000 Decrease gaps in math and ELA for at-risk, low-income, and special education students by providing intense research-based interventions during the summer months. Activity will include salaries, benefits, transportation, meals, and supplies. Implementation will be determined by student participation and staffing.
Junior High Special Education Teacher (multi-year)	173,000 Increasing the number of staff supporting our students with disabilities reduces class sizes and allows for more targeted support for this group of students.
Instructional Programs (multi-year)	100,000 Online programs that increase student engagement and instructional outcomes.
High School Trades Teacher (multi-year)	130,500 The trades teacher will expand the number of students who are able to take vocational classes at the high school; therefore, producing more career-ready individuals.
Junior High Math Intervention Teacher (multi-year)	130,500 The math intervention teacher will target math learning loss in grades 6, 7, and 8 and prepare students for algebra readiness at the high school level.
Before School/ After School Tutoring and Credit Recovery	61,099 The before school and after school program will primarily target our high school students. Credit Recovery will also be made available during this time so that students have an opportunity to get back on-track to graduate.
Professional Development (multi-year)	43,000 Provide staff training to increase trauma awareness and trauma based practices such as restorative practices and crisis prevention. Additional training and activities to support staff wellness and self-care. Staff will also receive multiple training opportunities on improving instruction and filling gaps in learning.
High School Social Worker (multi-year)	266,000 The social worker will support staff and student mental health as well as assist with academic, behavioral, and social emotional interventions.

Capital Improvements: \$2,550,608

Activity	Rationale
High School Construction of Classroom Addition	<p>2,550,608</p> <p>A new addition will be constructed that creates 12 new classrooms, 4 science labs, restrooms, gymnasium, 2 locker rooms, and a multipurpose room. The new facilities will lead to improved student learning and instruction through enhanced technology capabilities, upgraded lab spaces, and handicap accessible classrooms. The additional space will allow for appropriate distancing of students and staff during instruction.</p>