# Custer County School District C-1 ESSER III

#### Federal Stimulus Funding for Custer County School District C-1

### How much funding was allocated to Custer County School District C-1?

CRF: \$301,295

(Definition provided in glossary)

ESSER I (CARES Act): \$97,569
Addressing the immediate crisis
Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022

ESSER II (CRRSA Act): \$482,945 Providing stability and managing the health crisis

Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2023

ESSER III (ARP Act): \$1,085,393
Recovery and acceleration
Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2024
Use of Funds Plan

Other: \$0

(includes GEER and Rapid Request — definitions provided in glossary)

#### ESSER III Additional Information

Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2023

On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law. The ARP ESSER III funding from the ARP Act provides support for K-12 schools to help safely open and sustain the safe operations of schools and address the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. Although the ARP ESSER III uses of funds are similar to those for ESSER I and II, there are important distinctions between ARP ESSER III, ESSER II, and ESSER programs. ESSER III required:

- 20% of funds are used for addressing academic impact of lost instructional time
- An LEA Use of Funds Plan
- An LEA Safe In-Person Plan
- Maintenance of Equity

The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is **inherently and intentionally local** as the pandemic's effects varied substantially across Colorado. School communities were best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The top uses of ESSER III funds for Custer County School District C-1 are provided in the explanation below.

Includes ESSER supplemental funds provided to districts. An acronyms glossary is available below.



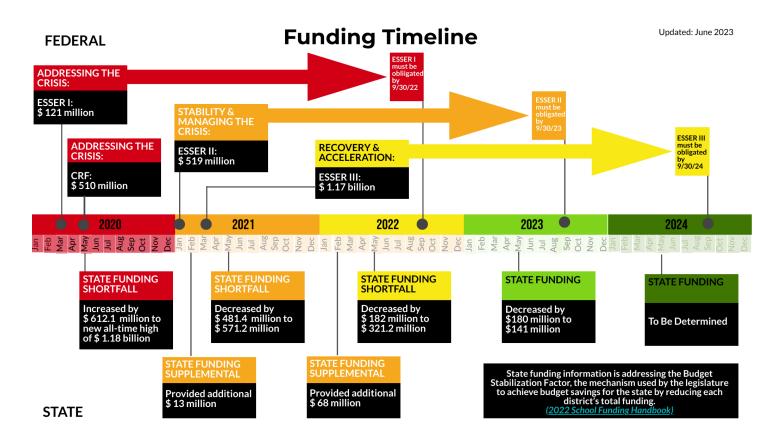
### How are students being supported through the use of federal stimulus dollars?

The federal stimulus dollars are a once-in-a-generation opportunity to support our students and to address the multi-year effects of the coronavirus pandemic. The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to

identify and address their most urgent local needs in order to:

- Create safe and healthy learning environments
- Address disrupted learning time
- Meet mental health needs of students and staff
- Support educators and staff stability and well-being

Education received <u>4.6% of all federal stimulus funds</u> in Colorado. While all the one-time federal stimulus dollars will expire by September 30, 2024, they have supported local students and communities weather the effects of the multi-year pandemic.



#### **ESSER III** — Recovery and acceleration

#### Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2024

On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law. The ARP ESSER III funding from the ARP Act provides support for K-12 schools to help safely open and sustain the safe operations of schools and address the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. Under ESSER III, Colorado was allocated \$1,166,328,632.

Although the ARP ESSER III uses of funds are similar to those for ESSER I and II, there are important distinctions between ARP ESSER III, ESSER II, and ESSER programs, including the period of funds availability, equitable services to non-public schools, maintenance of effort, and a report on efforts to measure and address learning loss. States are instructed to use all remaining ESSER funds before making use of the ESSER II funds, given the shorter remaining period of availability.

Due to the requirement from the U.S. Department of Education for states to allocate funds within 60 days of receipt, districts had a very short time frame to turn in applications. Districts were also required to develop and seek public comment on plans for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. This information must be made publicly available on the local educational agency's website no later than 30 days after receiving the allocation of funds.

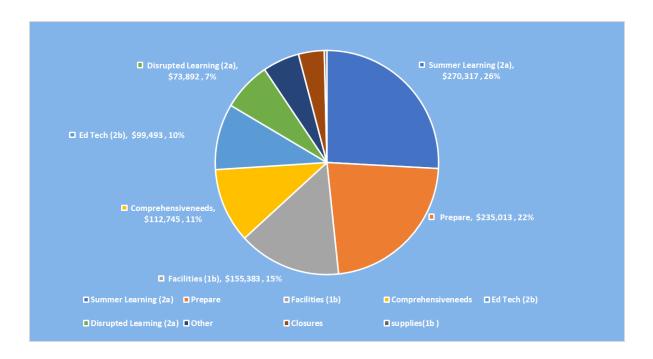
ESSER III funds were distributed according to the same process as the ESSER I and II funds with 90% flowing to local education agencies based on their federal Title I formula, which is intended to provide additional resources to schools in communities with higher poverty levels. ESSER II funding for Custer County School District C-1 was based on its Title I allocation and an ESSER II supplemental made by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). View CDE's Federal COVID Education Funding website for additional details.

It is also important to recognize that the decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as the pandemic's effects varied substantially across Colorado. School communities were best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The following information demonstrates the largest ESSER III investment priorities for Custer County School District C-1 based on May 2023 CDE data and *is subject to change as local priorities evolve to meet student needs.* 

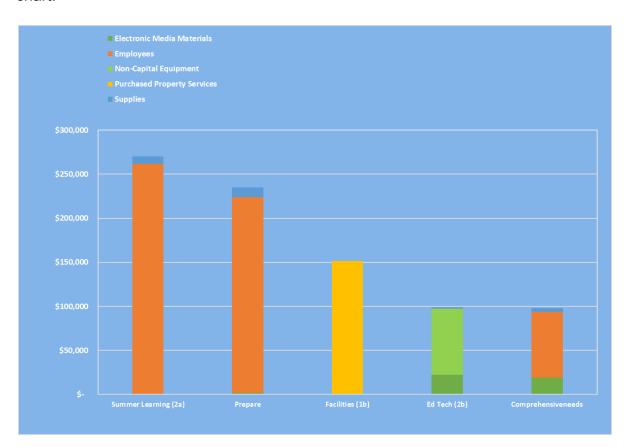


When looking at **Custer County School District C-1**'s ESSER III investments, the following categories reflect the activities for all investments. All allowable activities for districts include: activities, air quality, assessments, attendance, closures, discretionary, disrupted learning, ed tech, ESEA, facilities, IDEA, mental health, other, Perkins, prepare, remote PD, remote supports, summer learning, supplies, and training. The <u>CSFP website</u> provides a description of each allowable activity and the classification system to help explain all the various investment priorities.

For **Custer County School District C-1**, the largest investment activities are identified below in the pie chart.



The following chart reflects the makeup of the costs within **Custer County School District C-1's** top investment priorities. The <u>CSFP website</u> provides a description of each category in the chart.



You can access ESSER I fact sheets on the website. A future fact sheet will be available to provide additional details on ESSER III funding. You can also find additional information and resources on the <u>Colorado School Finance Project ESSER website</u>.



#### \*Custer County School District C-1 (2023-24) Student and District Characteristics

Students: 322

Preschool student numbers are no longer reported as part of the District enrollment. Preschool student numbers will not be available at this time.

Rural: Yes, Small rural

Free or Reduced Lunch: 40%

Free or Reduced Lunch (FRL) numbers have been impacted by pandemic years.

Special Education: 15% Gifted and Talented: 5%

**BOCES:** 

#### **Other Funding Facts**

2019-2020 Total Program Funding: \$3,940,393 (\$10,550 Per Pupil Funding) 2020-2021 Total Program Funding: \$3,656,004 (\$10,195 Per Pupil Funding) 2021-2022 Total Program Funding: \$4,025,786 (\$11,353 Per Pupil Funding) 2022-2023 Total Program Funding: \$4,445,685 (\$12,505 Per Pupil Funding) 2023-2024 Total Program Funding: \$4,478,776 (\$13,531 Per Pupil Funding)

Unlike prior years, funding for preschool is not included in the Total Program Funding

Local Share: 82% State Share: 18%

Loss in state share for the 2020-21 school year: -\$535,206 Loss in state share for the 2021-22 school year: -\$253,758 Loss in state share for the 2022-23 school year: -\$163,363 Loss in state share for the 2023-24 school year: -\$70,848 Cumulative loss in state share since 2009-10: -\$5,583,539

Learn more at the Custer County School District C-1 website: <a href="http://www.custercountyschools.org">http://www.custercountyschools.org</a>

#### ACRONYMS GLOSSARY

<sup>\*</sup> Numbers are based on the 2023-24 projected enrollment and funding and will be updated as information becomes available.

## ESSER State Reserve Funds Acronym Glossary

Acronym	Description
ARP	American Rescue Plan Act
CARES	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
CRF	Coronavirus Relief Fund
CRRSA	Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act
EANS	Emergency Aid for Non-public Schools
ESSER	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund
GEER	Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund
НСҮ	Homeless Children and Youth
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
LEAs	Local Education Agencies
LSTA	Library Services & Technology Act



#### Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

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The CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to support states with expenses due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID–19 incurred from March 1, 2020, to Dec. 30, 2020. In May 2020, Gov. Polis directed the transfer of \$510 million from the State of Colorado's CARES Act CRF to CDE to be awarded to school districts, the Charter School Institute, the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind and facility schools on a per pupil basis. Additionally, each BOCES in the state received \$25,000.

#### Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

The CARES Act included \$3 billion for a Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. Colorado was allocated more than \$44 million from the GEER fund. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020 added \$4.05 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. GEER II included \$2.75 billion for emergency assistance to nonpublic schools through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) grants of which \$28,433,931 has been allocated to Colorado.

#### **ESSER I Rapid Request**

All ESSER I funds expired on September 30, 2022 and any funds unobligated on September 30, 2022 would have to be reverted to the federal government. There are some unobligated funds from the 10% portion that could not be used by current grantees. The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) wants as many of these funds to go to Colorado grantees as possible, and have therefore created a simple ESSER I Rapid Request grant program to determine if any grantees have activities or costs that could have been funded with ESSER I funds, but were not. Learn more on the <u>CDE website</u>.