

— **DRAFT** —

ESSER III

Funds Proposal



Purpose for Use of ESSER III Funds

- US Department of Education (USED) is providing additional funds for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund) to state educational agencies.
- At least 20% of the funds allocated to school districts must be used to address students' learning loss.

Purpose for Use of ESSER III Funds

- How the 20% reserved for learning loss will be used must be linked to the district's Academic Recovery Plan that has been submitted to the SCDE. The plan includes strategies for providing annual growth in English language arts (ELA) and math for all students, college and career readiness for high school students, and catch-up growth for those impacted by the pandemic.

Elementary Schools Use of ESSER III Funds

Current Interventions to Address Learning Gaps

- Highly Effective Reading and Math Core, Intervention, Special Education, and Multilingual Programs
- Summer Learning Camp
- Before and/or After School Reading and Math Tutorials
- Daily Small-Group Instruction for All Students Performing Below Grade Level
- Additional Reading Intervention for Identified Students Performing at Lowest Percentiles

Reading and Math Learning Loss Interventionists

One additional certified teacher at each elementary school will provide small-group reading and/or math intervention during the school day to students identified with significant reading and/or math learning loss.

Total Cost for 3 years= **\$7,191,828**

Literacy Instructional Materials

Each elementary school will receive a literacy instructional materials allocation to enhance whole/small group instruction, during-the-day intervention, and before and/or after school tutorials for all K-5 students.

Total Cost for 3 Years = **\$1,950,000**

Mathematics Instructional Materials

Each elementary school will receive a math instructional materials allocation to enhance whole/small group instruction, during-the-day intervention, and before and/or after school tutorials for all K-5 students.

Total Cost for 3 Years = **\$1,462,500**

NWEA Accelerator

NWEA Accelerator is a research-proven digital tool designed to enhance differentiation in math and support growth for all students in grades 3-5. Accelerator provides students with learning experiences that meets their specific learning needs.

Total Cost for 3 Years = **\$225,000**

Enhanced Instructional Materials for k-1 Students with Disabilities

Enhanced core-replacement instructional materials for students with disabilities in kindergarten and first grade.

Total Cost for 3 Years = **\$225,000**

Middle School Use of ESSER III Funds

Current Interventions to Address Learning Gaps

- Intervention Courses
- Before and/or After School Tutorials
- Academic Recovery Opportunities
- Summer School Academic Recovery
- Group/Individual Academic Counseling Sessions

Reading (ELA) Learning Loss Interventionist

Certified teacher for each school to provide small-group targeted instruction in ELA classrooms that supports identified students who have learning gaps.

Total Cost for 3 years= **\$3,852,765**

Math Learning Loss Interventionist

Certified teacher for each school to provide small-group targeted instruction in math classrooms that supports identified students who have learning gaps.

Total Cost for 3 years= **\$3,852,765**

ELA Digital Content

Quindew~ Skill-Based Instruction

Quindew is a digital reading program that supports improving essential reading skills. Each lesson engages students in rigorous reading practice that meets students at their current reading levels. The purpose is to help students catch up, improve, and excel as readers through explicit differentiated instruction with personalized support.

Total Cost for 3 years = **\$690,000**

High School Use of ESSER III Funds

Current Interventions to Address Learning Gaps

- Intervention Courses
- Before and After School Tutoring Opportunities
- Credit Recovery Opportunities
- Flex Coursework
- Summer Initial Credit Opportunities
- Mentor Programs
- Advisory Programs

Reading and Math Learning Loss Interventionist

One additional certified teacher at each high school school will provide small-group reading and/or math intervention that supports identified students who have learning gaps.

Total Over 3 Years - **\$2,825,361**

Work-Based Learning Coaches

A paraprofessional at each school to support students who plan to enter the workforce immediately after graduation by securing and monitoring work-based opportunities in the student's chosen career pathway.

Total Over 3 Years - **\$1,188,924**

Employability and Transition Curriculum

Specialized curriculum to be utilized in special education classrooms for students in the South Carolina High School Diploma and the South Carolina Credential.

Total Over 3 Years - **\$700,000**

Graduation Coaches

A certified teacher at each school to support and monitor student progress toward on-time graduation.

Total Over 3 Years - **\$2,311,659**

Middle and High STEM Coach

A certified STEM coach to work directly with middle and high school leadership teams, STEM contacts, and STEM teachers to support STEM-related instruction and student learning.

Total Over 3 Years - **\$256,851**

Rationale for Certified Teachers as Interventionists

- All teachers are properly certified for the courses taught and must meet the applicable certification and licensure requirements, including any requirements obtained through alternative routes to certification. [R43-50, R43-205, §59-25-20, Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95, 129 STST 1845]

Rationale for Certified Teachers as Interventionists

- Any career specialist providing classroom instruction must be properly certified. [R43-205]
- Reading/ELA or math interventionist will be engaged in teaching a course and/or content and will need to have the required certification.

Rationale for Certified Teachers as Interventionists

- Highly-qualified certified teachers need to work with the students who are in need of academic support.
- ACT 284, Read to Succeed legislation requires reading interventionists to be certified teachers.
Paraprofessionals cannot serve as interventionists.