

American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT--Email info@ocsny.org
(Available in Spanish upon request)

On March 11, 2021, the President signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). New York State has been allocated nearly \$9 billion in ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. These funds are focused on:

- Supporting the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services;
- Addressing the impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs;
- Ensuring that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs; and
- Addressing the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on economically disadvantaged students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care.

OCS is seeking public comment from parents, teachers and other stakeholders on our plans for the use of our allocation of funds. We will take such comments into account in the development of the plan. Please email comments to info@ocsny.org by September 9, 2021.

Opportunity Charter School ARP ESSER Proposed Plan

2021-22 School Year

- Weekly Covid-19 testing of 25% of staff and students in order to safely return students to in-person instruction;
- Purchase of materials and equipment to safely operate the school and meet the needs of students.

2021-24 School Years

- Hire additional teaching staff and maintain existing teaching positions to maximize in-person instruction time;
- Lease additional space in order to adhere to guidance from NYCDOH, CDC and NYCDOE for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators and other staff;
- Offer afterschool programming that provides unique learning experiences to engage students in interests that establish a pathway to college or develop skills of the future. This will include after extended learning and enrichment programs.

Programs utilizing this funding may continue beyond the availability of such federal funds. Funding from local funding sources will be used to maintain such programs in order to minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs. Programs will be evaluated prior to the end of the funding period.