

ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

Updated September 2023

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The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.

FY24 Epic Charter School's ESSER III budget is \$24,742,799.74

FY23 Epic Charter School's ESSER III budget is \$44,915,274.76.

In consultation with stakeholders and through surveys completed by various stakeholder groups, the following strategies/items have been identified as needed for Epic Charter School to continue to effectively serve students, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Part 1: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies: *The extent to which and how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning.*

ESSER III funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools. Based on stakeholder input, ESSER III funds will be used to implement the following strategies to address prevention and mitigation:

Description	ESSER Use of Funds	Timeline
Cleaning services which ensure building sanitation and disinfection which prevents the spread of Covid-19	Primary: 2I Secondary:	FY23, FY24
Providing masks, sanitizer, disinfecting materials and supplies, etc.	Primary: 2Q Secondary:	FY23, FY24 as needed
Office equipment/copiers	Primary: 2J Secondary:	FY23, FY24 one-time
Zoom Licensing to support virtual and VLC distance learning	Primary: 2J Secondary: 2K	FY23, FY24
Health Aides	Primary: 2Q Secondary: 2A, 2H, 2R	FY24

Part 2: Addressing Learning Loss: *How the LEA will use the funds it reserved under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (20% of ESSER ARP Act formula funds) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs, or extended school year;*

A minimum of 20% percent of ESSER III funds will be used to address the academic impact of learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions. Epic Charter School will allocate 50% of its ESSER III funds on the following strategies to address lost instructional time:

Description	ESSER Use of Funds	Timeline
Evidence-based supplemental curriculum to address standards-mastery and ensure academic growth	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, K, Nii	FY23, FY24
Evidence-based benchmarks to provide data to drive instruction	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, K, Ni	FY23, FY24
24-hour live, interactive homework help for students	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, K, Nii	FY23, FY24
Professional Development for evidence based curriculum and instruction	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, Nii	FY23, FY24
Professional Development Stipends (LETRS, tbd)	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, Nii	FY23, FY24 one-time
Professional Development Travel	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, Nii	FY23, FY24
Online Library materials and resources	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2F, J, K, Nii,	FY23, FY24
Summer Academic Camp personnel	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, M, Ni, Nii,	Summer 23, Summer 24
Tutoring personnel	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, M, Ni, Nii	FY23, FY24
Teacher Development Specialists Salaries/Benefits	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, Ni, Nii, R	FY23, FY24
Instructional Leader Development Specialists	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, Ni, Nii, R	FY23, FY24
Instructional Quality Specialist Salary/Benefits	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, Ni, Nii, R	FY23, FY24
Instructional Designer Salaries/Benefits	Primary: 1 Secondary: 2A, 2B, F, Ni, Nii, R	FY23, FY24

Part 3 Other Use of Funds: How the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with the uses authorized in section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act;

The district will dedicate the remaining funds to provide high-quality instructional initiatives, which could include growth assessments, benchmarks, and summative/formal measures, and other online learning tools. To ensure the successful implementation of any resource, Epic Charter School will use ESSER III funds to provide meaningful, targeted professional development.

Description	ESSER Use of Funds	Timeline
Technical support for continuity of learning and to respond to any long-term closures	Primary: 2J Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2R	FY23, FY24
Educational technology (hardware, software, and connectivity) for students to aide in educational interaction	Primary: 2K Secondary: 2A, 2B, J,	FY23, FY24
Computers and wifi devices for staff	Primary: 2R Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J, 2R	FY23, FY24
Teacher Tech Packs (document cameras, projectors, etc)	Primary: 2R Secondary: 2B, 2J	FY23 one-time
Network/Connectivity Equipment: switches, wireless access points, servers for connection	Primary: 2R Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J	FY23, FY24 one-time
Website and other online communication channel development to better communicate response efforts	Primary: 2G Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J, 2R, 2Niii	FY23 one-time
Technology equipment (cameras, microphones, other hardware/software, etc) to support communication	Primary: 2R Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J, 2Niii	FY23, FY24 one-time
Multimedia technology equipment for creating content for communication channels	Primary: 2K Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J	FY23, FY24 one-time
Computers for student use	Primary: 2K Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J	FY23, FY24 one-time
Mifi devices for student use	Primary: 2K Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J	FY23, FY24 one-time
Computer prep	Primary: 2K Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2J	FY23, FY24 one-time
eSports programs	Primary: 2R Secondary:	FY23, FY24 one-time

Part 4 Addressing Academic, Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs: *How the LEA will ensure that the interventions its implements, including but not limited to those implemented under section 2001(e)(1) (20% set aside), will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and migratory students.*

All students, including low-income students, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities and students experiencing homelessness will be provided all technology needed, including wifi, for their learning plan. Students will be provided a summer academic program and will be provided with 24/7 tutoring access. A multi-tiered system of support will be offered through evidence-based curriculum such as Bright Thinker, Apex, Edgenuity, Edmentum, Waterford, Lexia, Successmaker, I Ready, Imagine Math, Dreambox, Coach Digital, Mindplay, Reading Plus, Reading Eggs, ALEKS, and Accelerated Reader, Math+, NoRedInk, etc. Benchmark assessments through Star Reading and Math, Star Early Literacy, Performance Matters and other formative assessments will be used to identify gaps in learning so that individualized needs will be met. Students will have access to reading level books through the online library.

To meet the social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly low-income students, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness, Epic Charter School will dedicate funding to a SEL curriculum through EmpowerU and other evidenced-based SEL curriculum identified to meet the needs of students. The curriculum as well as support through an SEL specialist on staff will be integrated into the regular schedule of students. Students of color will be given the opportunity to express themselves socially through diversity activities that will be available through the multi-cultural department throughout the year. Students experiencing homelessness will be provided the opportunity to utilize additional services through partnerships with DHS and Alliance Mental Health to assist with their emotional and mental health needs.

Families and parents of all students, and particularly low-income students, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness will be provided with additional support through family education training and webinars, translators for communication between the family and district, and other activities as needed. An updated website and communication channels will also be incorporated to increase interaction between the families and the district.

Description	ESSER Use of Funds	Timeline
SEL Curriculum	Primary: 2L Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2F, 2R	FY23, FY24
Mental Health Support-Alliance Mental Health	Primary: 2L Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2F, 2R	FY23, FY24
DHS Partnership	Primary: 2L Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2F, 2R	FY23, FY24
SEL Support Specialist Salary/Benefits	Primary: 2L Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2F, 2R	FY23, FY24
Multicultural Programs and Services Salaries/Benefits	Primary: 2F Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2R	FY23, FY24
Language Assistance Specialist Salary/Benefits	Primary: 2F Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2R	FY23, FY24
Hispanic Programs and Services Specialist Salary/Benefits	Primary: 2F Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2R	FY23, FY24
Leadership Development Salaries/Benefits	Primary: 2F Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2R	FY23, FY24
Certification Pathway Specialists	Primary: 2A Secondary: 2B, 2R	FY24
School Psychologist Salaries/Benefits	Primary: 2L Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2F, 2R	FY23, FY24
Occupational, Speech, and Physical Therapy	Primary: 2L Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2F, 2R	FY23, FY24
College and Career Readiness Salaries/Benefits	Primary: 2F Secondary: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2R	FY23, FY24
Family Engagement EPAT Salaries/Benefits	Primary: 2Niii Secondary: 2F	FY23, FY24
Family Engagement Multimedia Specialist and Videographer	Primary: 2Niii Secondary: 2F	FY23, FY24
Translators	Primary: 2Niii Secondary: 2F, 2J	FY23, FY24

Stakeholder Input

Advisory committee meetings, Lunch and Learn presentations, staff meetings, and surveys during the fall of 2023, 2022, and 2021 have been used to gather stakeholder input for the use of ESSER funds.

Fall 2023

Staff Planning Meeting: July 27, 2023

Advisory Committee Meeting: July 31, 2023

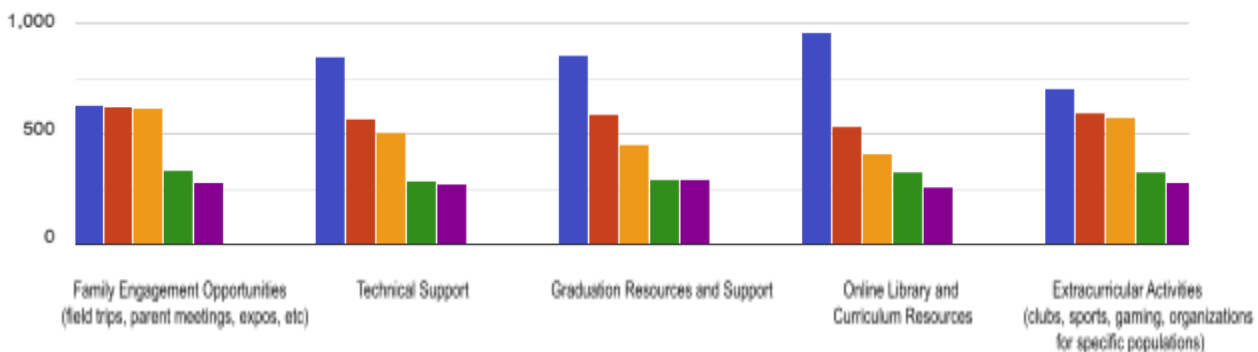
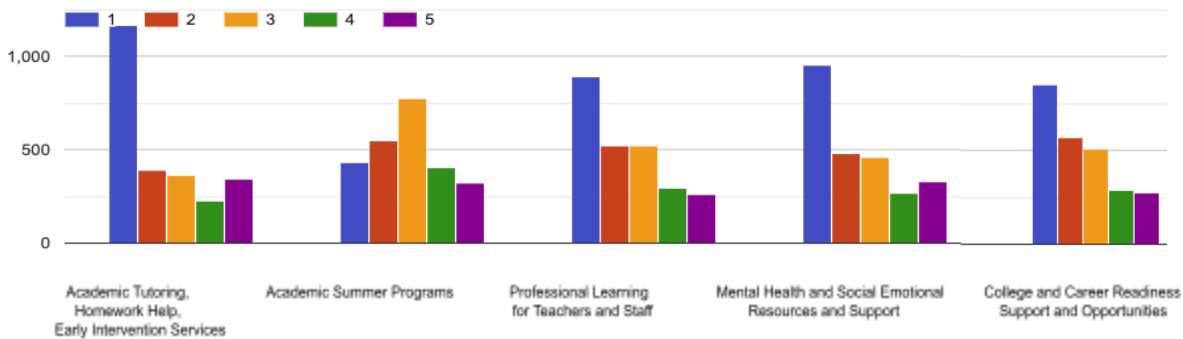
Survey: July 27, 2023

Survey participants were asked to rank various areas of need based on “most important” and “least important.” Epic Charter School has 2493 survey responses (1,501 parents/guardians, 282 students, 688 employees, 22 community members).

Academic Tutoring, Homework Help, Early Intervention Services
 Academic Summer Programs
 Professional Learning for Teachers and Staff
 Mental Health and Social Emotional Resources and Support
 College and Career Readiness Support and Opportunities

Family Engagement Opportunities Online and In-Person
 Technical Support
 Graduation Resources and Support
 Online Library and Curriculum Resources
 Extracurricular Activities

Ranked in order of importance (1 most important and 5 least important)



Fall 2022

Epic Lunch and Learn: September 16, 2022

Staff Planning Meeting: September 19, 2022

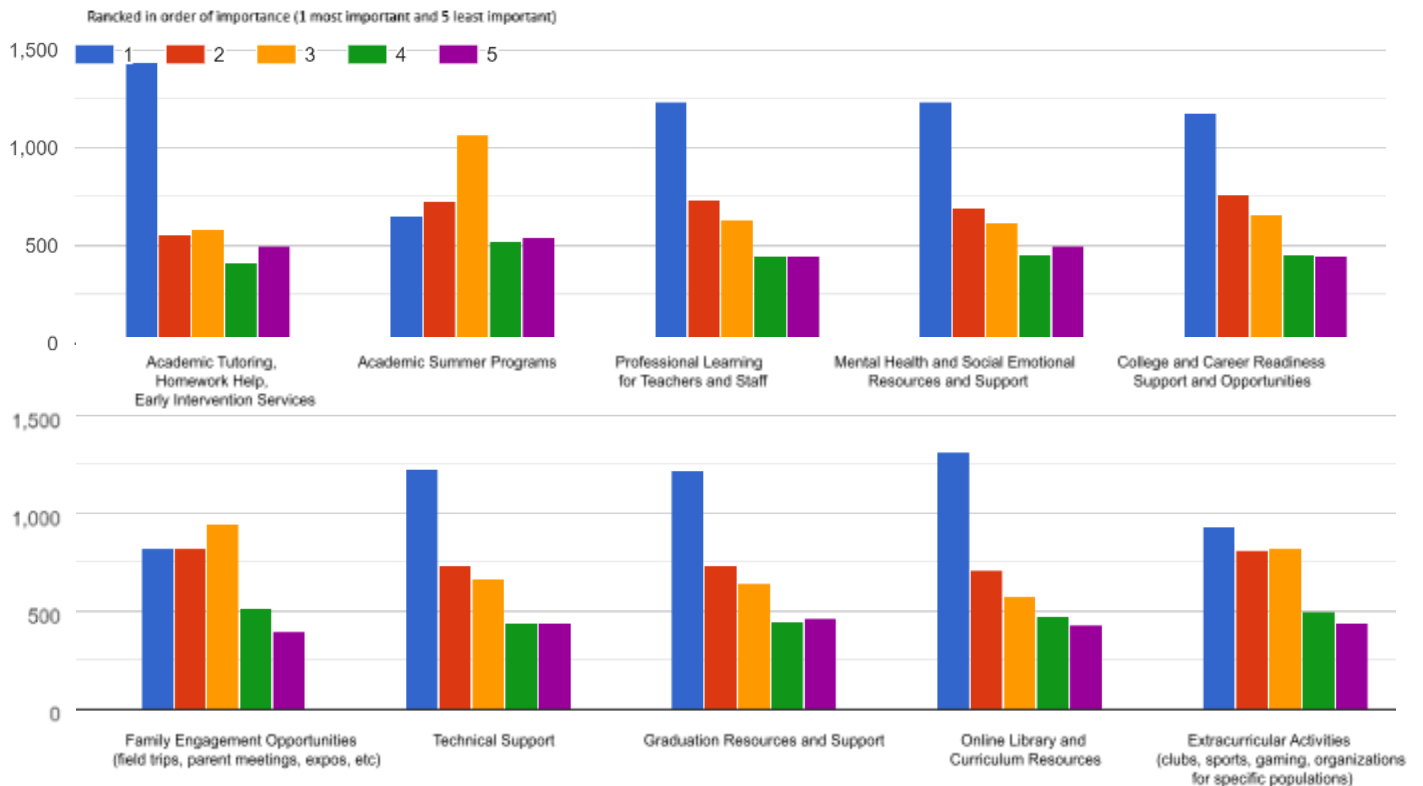
Advisory Committee Meeting: September 21, 2022

Survey: September 2022

Survey participants were asked to rank various areas of need based on “most important” and “least important.” Epic Charter School has 3,520 survey responses (2,191 parents/guardians, 764 students, 465 employees, 100 community members).

Please rank each item below in order of importance to you (1 being the most important and 5 being the least important). This information will be used in federal programs planning

- Academic Tutoring, Homework Help, Early Intervention Services
- Academic Summer Programs
- Professional Learning for Teachers and Staff
- Mental Health and Social Emotional Resources and Support
- College and Career Readiness Support and Opportunities
- Family Engagement Opportunities Online and In-Person
- Technical Support
- Graduation Resources and Support
- Online Library and Curriculum Resources
- Extracurricular Activities



Fall 2021

Epic Lunch and Learn: December 3, 2021

Staff Planning Meeting: August 18, 2021

Advisory Committee Meeting: November 18, 2021

Survey: November and December 2021

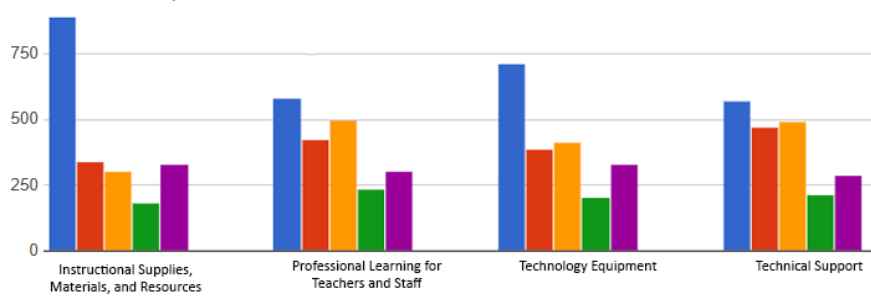
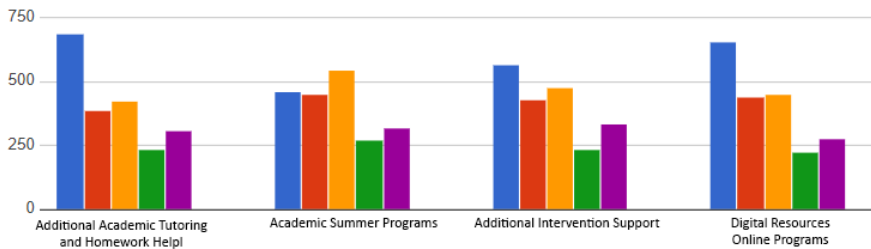
Epic Charter School had 2,102 survey responses (1,499 parents/guardians, 44 students, 497 employees, 62 community members)

The areas of ranking include:

- Additional Academic Tutoring/Homework Help
- Academic Summer Programs
- Additional Intervention Support
- Digital Resources/Online Programs
- Instructional Supplies, Materials, and Resource
- Professional Learning for Teachers and Staff
- Technology Equipment
- Technical Support
- Facility Space Availability
- Mobile Classrooms
- Additional Mental Health Support
- Additional Social Emotional Resources and Support
- Additional College and Career Readiness Support
- Family Engagement Opportunities Online and In-Person
- Updated/Additional Communication Channels

Ranked in order of importance (1 most important and 5 least important)

1 2 3 4 5



Ranked in order of importance (1 most important and 5 least important)

1 2 3 4 5

