ESSER/ESSA Federal Program Updates

March 8, 2024

Agenda

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- **Amended Liquidation Protocols**
- **Capital Expenditure Pre-Approvals**
- **PERs**
- **GANS**

II. **Federal Programs**

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III. **Grants Management**

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- **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)**
- **SPED Camera Maintenance**
- **January Allocation Changes (BESE)**
- **ESSER Data Reporting APR4**

ESSER Updates

Bernell Cook, Executive Director, FSGR

ESSER II Incentive Funding

ESSER II Incentive Funding

- In October 2023, the Agency announced that for all LEAs whose ESSER II Incentive final PER indicates at least 99% of their full award amount for ESSER II Incentive funds were drawn down, those LEAs will be able to request additional funding for any ESSER allowable expenditures they may have incurred above and beyond their award amount.

- Why weren't additional funds awarded?
  - Most of our school systems took advantage of the ESSER II Incentive flexibilities and were able to obligate, in most instances, all of their ESSER II Incentive funding.
  - Due to the obligation of ESSER II Incentive funds by the LEAs, there were no additional ESSER II incentive funding available for reallocation to local school systems.

ESSER III Funds (Formula and Incentive)

ESSER III Funding

Fund Source	Obligation End Date
ESSER III Formula	9/30/2024
ESSER III EB Intervention	9/30/2024
ESSER III Incentive	9/30/2024
Homeless ARP	9/30/2024

ESSER III Funding

ESSER III Incentive Flexibility

- The Agency continues to support the LEAs in drawing down ESSER III Incentive balances

- The Agency has allowed school systems to have the flexibility to utilize their remaining ESSER III Incentive funds for any allowable ESSER activity through September 2024.

  - Use of ESSER III Incentive funds for any allowable ESSER expenditure (i.e. All ESSER Formula allowable costs, high quality curriculum and any associated instructional materials, literacy foundation training completion stipends, instructional coaches, etc.)

ESSER III Funding

ESSER III Incentive Flexibility

- For ESSER III Incentive funding recently received through BESE approval, school systems are expected to implement the initiatives based on their needs and utilize any unused incentive funding for other allowable ESSER activities.

- Continue to use the current EICs available for Incentive funding in the Achieve! Application

- No longer limited to current ESSER III Incentive initiatives expenditures as originally awarded

ESSER III Funding

- The Agency is currently monitoring ESSER III funding for the possibility of reallocation of any funding that will not be obligated on or before 9/30/24.

- An additional page will be included in the Achieve! application for LEAs to indicate if there is any ESSER III funding (formula and/or incentive) they will not be able to obligate on or before 9/30/24 and will release to LDOE.

- There is the potential for unobligated funding (formula and/or incentive) to be reallocated to LEAs who indicate a desire to receive additional funding.

- Any reallocation will be dependent on the available funds as identified on the ESSER III Obligation tab in the Achieve! application.

ESSER III Funding

- The Agency plans to release the ESSER III Obligation tab in April for initial indications of unobligated ESSER III funds.
  - Initial information will be used to begin planning for potential reallocation of funding

- A secondary request to update the ESSER III Obligation funding tab will occur in at the beginning of August.
  - The amounts in the application at this time will be verified and potentially used for reallocation.

ESSER III Funding

- To complete the ESSER III Obligation tab, LEAs will need to:
  - If the Achieve! application is currently in an approved posture, LEAs will need to create an amendment for the Obligation tab to be visible
  - If Achieve! application is currently with the LEA and has an open amendment, the Obligation tab will be visible.
  - If Achieve! application is in the review process, the LEA will need to wait for the review process to complete. Once the application is "Accepted" or "Accepted with Comments," the LEA will need to create an amendment to view the Obligation tab. If "Returned for Change," the Obligation tab will be visible.
  - LEAs will need to complete and save the ESSER III Obligation tab; however will not be required to submit the open amendment unless the amendment is needed to adjust their budget for unbudgeted funds or the correction of Object Code/EICs for PER completion.

Amended Liquidation Protocols

Amended Liquidation Protocols

- In an effort to afford LEAs the fullest range of flexibility in drawing down the ESSER III funding, LDOE is implementing amended liquidation protocols.
    - These amended protocols apply to the ESSER III funding (formula and incentive) only.

- The amended protocols will allow LEAs additional time to liquidate:
    - Goods
    - Services
    - Construction projects

Goods

Amended Liquidation Protocols

- Contracts for goods must be in place no later than 9/30/2024.

- Goods may be received by entity through 12/16/2024 with no need for late liquidation request. This is allowed per federal rules and USDE Guidance; these rules allow this performance during the standard 120 day liquidation period.

- A late liquidation request in November 2024 would most likely be denied by USDE since there is no need for a request when the liquidation will occur prior to December 2024 or during the current liquidation period.

  - For example, the goods should be received before the final PER is due.

Amended Liquidation Protocols

- If the contract is amended after 9/30/24 because the goods will not be delivered timely, the contract is now unallowable since all contracts must be obligated prior to 9/30/24.

  - Example of when an obligation date changes:

    - If an LEA has a binding contract on or before 9/30/2024, the LEA can have good/services received through December 15, 2024 without a late liquidation request.

    - However, if there is a substantial change made in the cost or scope of project, this would warrant an amendment to the contract, which changes the obligation timeline.

      - In this situation, the LEA would not be in a posture to support any expenditures beyond 9/30/2024 with ESSER funding.

Services

Amended Liquidation Protocols

- Contracts for services must be in place no later than 9/30/2024.

- Services can be completed by 12/16/24 with no request for late liquidation.

- For example, if a discount on services such as a multi-year subscription can be obtained, the prorated portion of the subscription through 12/16/2024.

Construction Projects

Amended Liquidation Protocols

- If more time is needed to complete a construction project beyond 12/16/2024, there must be a determination regarding if the contract has no change or a de minimis change versus the contract has been amended.

  - If the cost of the contract will be revised then that is more than likely an amendment to the contract which would change the obligation date. Versus, if an interim completion date is changed, then that would be de minimis.

  - A contract to replace the AC units is signed by February 2024 utilizing ESSER III funds; however the contract now indicates a completion date of 12/10/24. These dates meet both the obligation and amended liquidation requirements.

Documentation

Documentation for Amended Liquidation

- **Goods:** payments/delivery receipts/ final invoices/delivery slips showing all goods were received on or before 12/16/2024

- **Services:** documentation showing payments for all deliverables provided on or before 12/16/24.

- **Construction:** payments for completed project deliverables on or before 12/16/24. Documentation showing scope of work completed no later than 12/16/24.

Capital Expenditure Pre Approvals

Capital Expenditure Pre-Approval

- **Social Distancing and Contact tracing:** will not be an acceptable reason for approval, unless related to address student learning loss or student well-being activities from this point forward

- **Construction:** for any pre-approval request(s) after April/May, the Agency will be asking for additional information to ensure project completion by 12/15/24.

- Award period end date for obligation: 9/30/24
  - Modified liquidation protocols do not affect the requirements to obligate ESSER ARP funds on or before 9/30/24.

Periodic Expenditure Reports (PER) Submission

Periodic Expenditure Report (PER)

- PER Dates
  - 9/30
  - 12/31
  - 3/31
  - 6/30

- LEA have 15 days beyond the PER date to submit the PER in a timely manner except for the 9/30 PER which allows 45 days (11/15) for timely submission

- Any PER submitted beyond the timeline is flagged by the eGMS system.
  - LEAs receive notification via email on delinquent PER(s)

Periodic Expenditure Report (PER)

- As indicated in previous communications, the Agency used the July 2022-23 and the 2023-24 school years as a data gathering timeframe for late submission of PERs.

- LEAs who demonstrate a pattern of late submissions will have additional stipulations added to the Grant Award Notifications (GANs) that may includes steps the LEA must take to ensure additional action is not taken by the Agency which may include a reduction in funding for the identified fund source.

- The Agency will analyze data from late PER submission reports to identify patterns in late submissions

Periodic Expenditure Report (PER)

- **Example of a pattern of late submission**

Title I	5/1/2023 6:00:11 AM	12/31
Title I	5/15/2023 6:00:05 AM	12/31
Title I	6/5/2023 6:00:05 AM	12/31
Title I	5/8/2023 6:00:05 AM	12/31
Title I	4/17/2023 6:00:07 AM	12/31
Title I	10/30/2023 6:00:07 AM	9/30
Title I	6/12/2023 6:00:07 AM	12/31
Title I	7/10/2023 6:00:06 AM	3/31
Title I	4/24/2023 6:00:03 AM	12/31
Title I	6/19/2023 6:00:11 AM	12/31
Title I	6/5/2023 6:00:05 AM	3/31
Title I	5/22/2023 6:00:10 AM	12/31
Title I	9/4/2023 6:00:04 AM	6/30

Periodic Expenditure Report (PER)

Late PER Submissions Next Step

- The Agency will review the PER report and develop potential benchmarks to identify LEAs determined be delinquent in the timely submission of PERs
- Meet with stakeholder group to provide feedback on identified benchmarks
- Decisions/determinations will be made and identified conditions will be added to the 2024-25 preliminary GANs awards made available September annually.

Grant Award Notifications (GANs)

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- We have noticed an uptick in the number of calls and/or emails regarding the retrieval of GANs for awarded funds.

- Formula GANs (ESSA, IDEA and Carl Perkins)
    - Preliminary GANs posted in September
    - Final GANs posted in February

- Competitive/Discretionary GANs (BESE approved funding)
    - GANs are published approximately 20 days after the funding is loaded into eGMS

Retrieving Grant Award Notifications (GANs)

- Navigate to the eGMS website
- Prior to logging in, select the "Public Access" link

Retrieving Grant Award Notifications (GANs)

- On the Public Reports Menu select the Grant Award Notification link.

- Complete all dropdown information for the GAN you are attempting to access
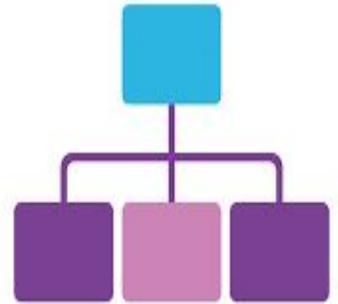- Select the "View Report" button
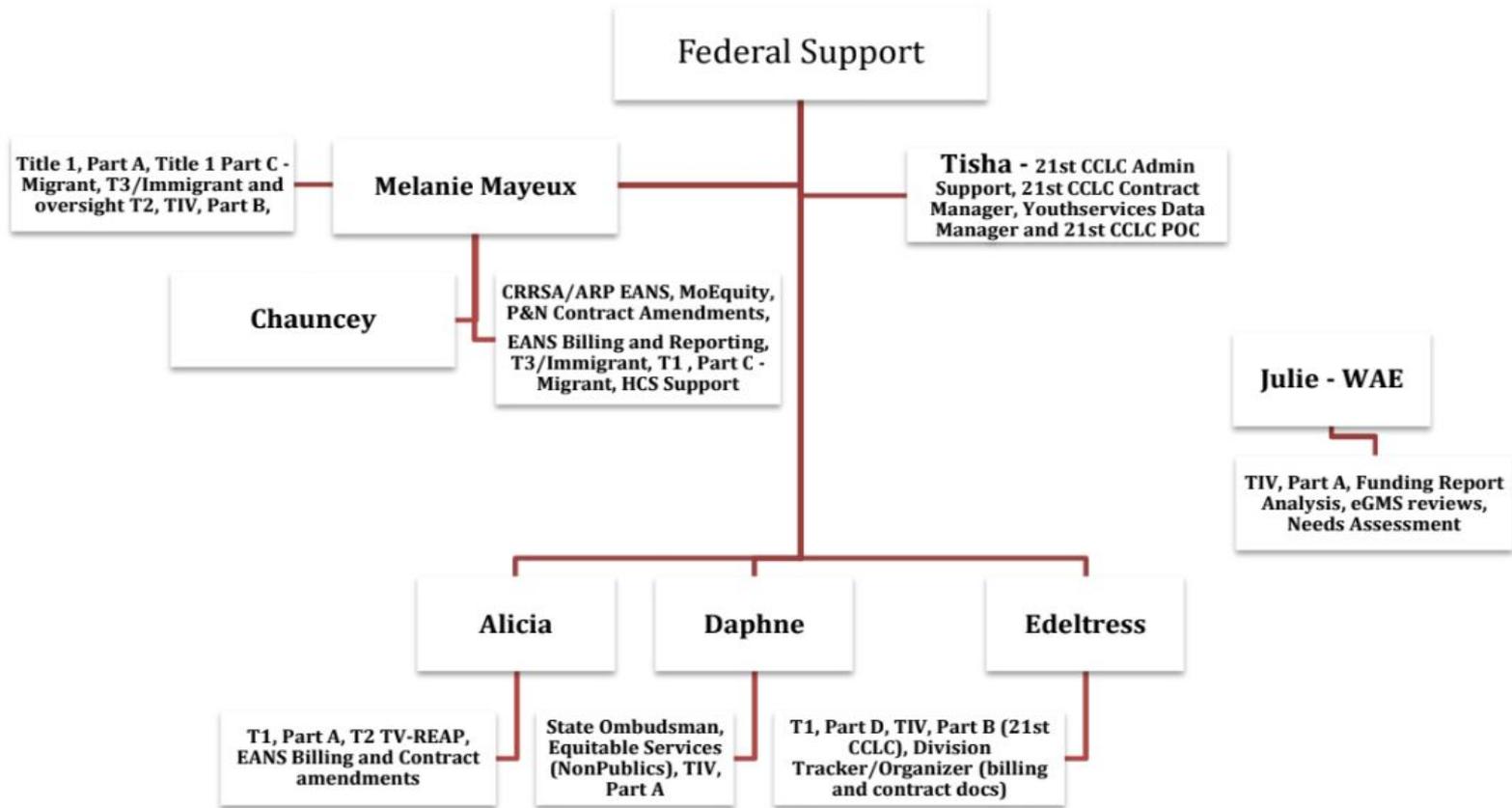
Federal Programs

Kenya Jenkins, Director, Federal Support

Where Things Started…

Federal Support Team A
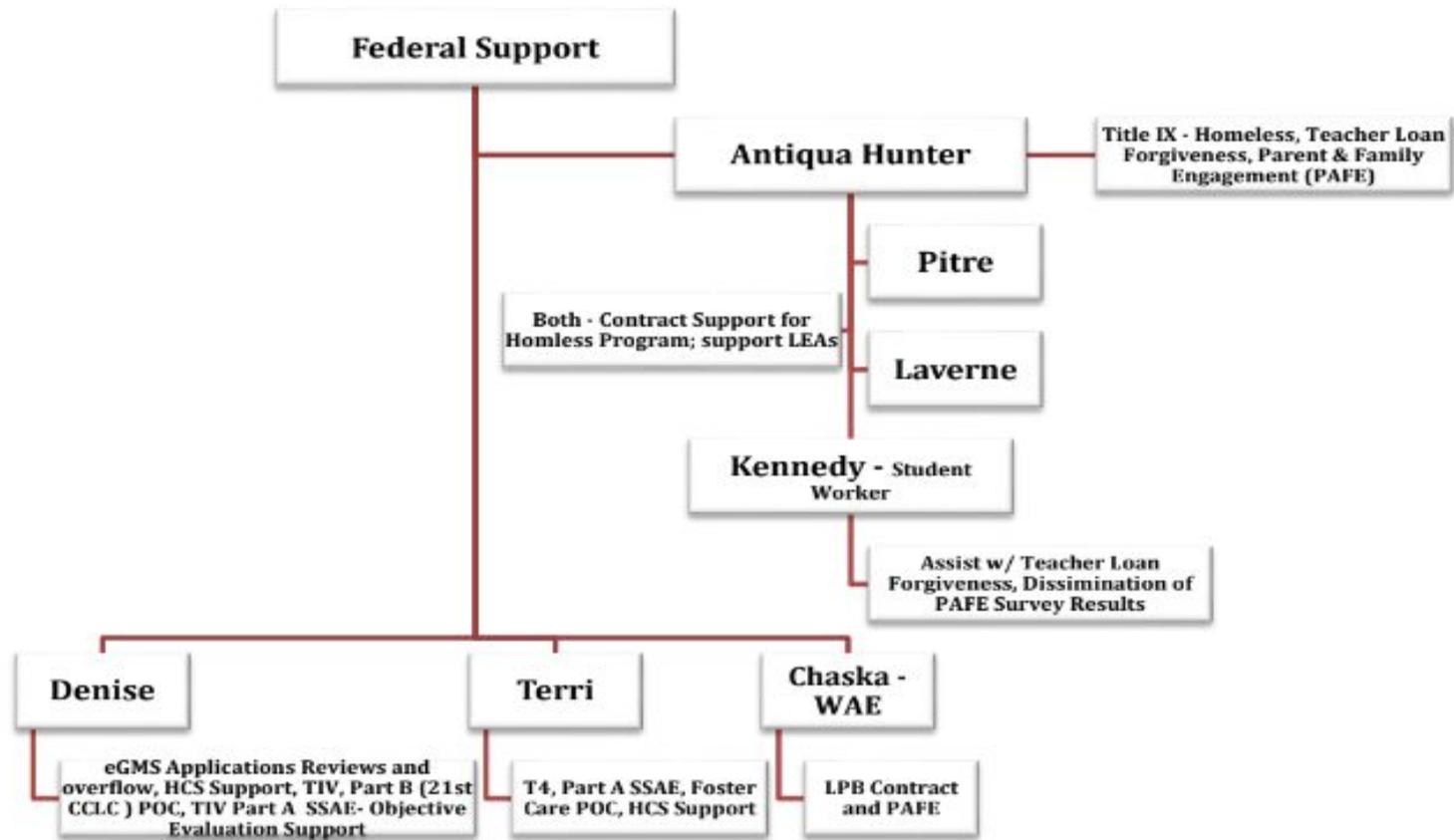
Federal Support Team B

Federal Support Transitions

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- Supervisors
- Program Managers
- Title IV, Part A, 21st CCLC (Title IV, Part B), Foster Care POC

- What do we hope to accomplish with these shifts?

Intentional Outreach

- Be proactive not reactive
- Periodic Expense Reports (PERs)
- Funding Balances
- Drawdown Percentages

PERs and the Federal Support Work

PER Timelines

PER	Due Date
*9/30	11/15
12/31	1/15
3/31	4/15
*6/30	7/15

*Important PERs that inform Federal Support work

Funding Balances/Drawdown Percentages

- Quarterly Comparisons
  - July 1-June 30 - State Fiscal Year
  - Establish balance percentage thresholds
  - Upon review, there will be outreach to the LEAs
- We want to assist LEAs in being proactive

Funding Cliff

- Wouldn't you rather be here?
  - Cautiously Optimistic
  - Planning for sustainability
  - Taking advantage of the ESSER III Incentive spending flexibility
    - ESSER III Incentive funds can be utilized for any allowable ESSER expenditure

Sustainability

- Ensure alignment of district's needs across all federal programs
- Identify federal program with similar purpose
- Reassess activities effectiveness of existing programs
- Align federal funds to only support the prioritized needs of the district

Braided Funding

ESSER Project: Expand districtwide summer school program to address learning loss

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ESSER Project: Expand districtwide summer school program to address learning loss

- **What are the needs for this initiative**
  - Staff - Coordinator for summer program, Tutors
  - Professional development for staff
  - Enrichment Activities
  - Transportation
  - Supplies

Braided Funding

District Initiative	Carl Perkins	CEIS	DSS	IDEA	Neg. & Del.	Title I	Migrant	Title II	Title III	Title IV	Title V	Homeless	21st CCLC	Redesign
Districtwide Summer School Program to address learning loss.		X	X			X		X		X	X		X	

Federal Program Reminder

Title I, Part A – Consolidated State Performance Data Report

The LDOE must report student data for participation in Title I, Part A in the Consolidated State Performance Report (CSPR). The data will be collected in the LEADS portal https://leads3.doe.louisiana.gov/PTL/

The portal has been re-opened for data submission and will close March 8th.

TIA- LEAs/Charters will log into the portal and enter student counts in Table 1 under the TAS column or the SWP column. Utilize the October 2022 student count in Table 1 to provide the Title I, Part A student participation counts.

Systems that are TAS must complete Tables 1-5 and those that are SWP will only complete Table 1.

If you receive Title I, Part A funds, you must complete this data request.

Please contact Edeltress.Brown@la.gov with questions.

LAU Plan Reviews

- Review of 23-24 LAU plans are scheduled to begin March 1, 2024
- Feedback will be provided after a district's plan is reviewed
- In the Spring, we will solicit feedback on how the LAU Plan template can be streamlined.
- Our goal is to have the LAU Plan submissions in eGMS for 2024-2025.

Grants Management

Randy Littleton, Chief of Staff, FSGR

Updates/Reminders

Updates/Reminders

2023-24 Super App
- All Final allocations for formula funds (ESSA, IDEA, and Carl Perkins) have been loaded in eGMS.
  - LEAs can begin creating an amendment and making the needed changes to the Budget Detail

2024-25 Super App
- Competitive and Formula allocations will be loaded in eGMS at the end of April.
- The deadline for submission of the 2024-25 Super App Amendment 1 is June 28, 2024.

ESSER Data Reporting SFY23
- The application is available in eGMS.
- Deadline for submission: March 15, 2024

Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Funding

AED Funding

- ACT 234 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session requires each elementary, middle and high school to have an AED on its premises.
- Funding was appropriated for the purchase of AEDs.
- Two types of funding was used for this initiative:
  - State appropriated funds
    - These funds are available in the 2023-24 AED application in eGMS
  - ESSER III Incentive funds
    - Funds are available in the 2020-21 Achieve! application in the ESSER III Incentive funding
- Each LEA received only one type of funding.

Note: most traditional LEAs and Charters received ESSER III Incentive

AED Funding

- LEAs that received State Appropriated funding:

  - Assumption
  - Bienville
  - Bossier
  - Caldwell
  - Catahoula
  - Central Community School District

  - District
  - City of Bogalusa
  - City of Monroe
  - East Baton Rouge
  - St. John
  - West Baton Rouge

- LEAs listed above will need to create the 2023-24 AED application. For all other LEAs, AED funding will be available in the Achieve! application.

SPED Camera Maintenance

- Funding is to provide for maintenance costs of cameras in certain SPED classrooms across Louisiana per legislation.

- A supplement has been loaded to the 2022-23 SPED Camera application in eGMS.

- LEAs will need to amend the application and budget the additional funding.

- Additional funding should use the "MAINT" EIC Code in the Budget Detail.

January Allocation Changes - BESE

Allocation Changes

Initiative	Fund Source	Application
Amira Learning Tutoring Expansion	ESSER III Incentive	2021 Achieve!
CLSD CIR/UIR-A	CLSD	2024Super App
Math Refresh - High School Curriculum Transition Support	ESSER III Incentive	2021 Achieve!
Math Refresh - Numeracy Professional Learning Pilot	ESSER III Incentive	2021 Achieve!
Real-time Early Acces to Literacy	ESF-REM	2024 EC Consolidated
The CHANGE Collective Pilot	ESSER III Incentive	2021 Achieve!
Virtual Programming Chort	ESSER III Incentive	2021 Achieve!
Homeless ARP	Homeless ARP	2021 Achieve!
Pre-K Mentor and Resident Funding	8(g)	2024 LA Recruitment and Retention
SPED Camera Maintenance	State General Fund	2023 SPED Camera
The New Teacher Experience	8(g)	2024 LA Recruitment and Retention

ESSER Data Reporting
APR 4

ESSER APR 4: Tentative LEA Reporting Timeline

- The APR 4 eGMS reporting app is currently under development
  - Application released: February 2024
  - Anticipated due date: March 15, 2024

Reporting Period			
ESSER I	Fourth Annual	July 1, 2022 – Sept. 30, 2023	July 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023
ESSER II CRRSA	Third Annual	State Fiscal Year 2023	July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023
ESSER III (ARP ESSER)	Third Annual		

Question & Answer

Contact Information

For more information or questions contact:
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