



STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT DEVELOPING NEW YORK'S AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF PLAN

Public Comment Accepted Through May 24

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) is seeking public input in the development of the plan for the use of \$8.99 billion in federal funds allocated to New York State under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund. These federal funds have been provided to assist New York State's Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and NYSED, as the State Educational Agency, to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools in the current academic year and beyond and address the impacts of the coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") pandemic on New York State's students by addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.

To promote accountability, transparency, and the effective use of ARP ESSER funds, NYSED is soliciting public input from all stakeholders, including but not limited to:

- students;
- families;
- Native American Nations;
- civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations);
- school and district administrators (including special education administrators);
- superintendents;
- charter school leaders;
- teachers;
- principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions; and
- stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.

Stakeholders are asked to visit [the ThoughtExchange platform](#) to provide their thoughts on following question regarding the New York's ARP ESSER plan:

As we prepare for the next school year in New York State, what are the most important academic, social emotional, and/or mental health supports for schools to provide to serve all students (i.e., general education students, students with disabilities, English language learners, and other students most impacted by the pandemic)?

Responses received by **May 24, 2021** will be reflected in NYSED's final ARP ESSER plan.

Thank you for your contribution to this important effort.