

How to use COVID Relief Funds to Support Student Needs Today and Tomorrow



Federal aid programs created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic represent important funding opportunities for K-12 schools.

Here's what to know about each relief package, including important deadlines and other related guidance.

Funding Overview

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)

- \$13.4B for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund (ESSER I)
- \$3B for Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)
- \$14.2B for higher education

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) / Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA)

- \$54.3B for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund (ESSER II)
- \$4B for Governor's Emergency Education Relief fund (GEER II)
- \$22.7B for higher education

American Rescue Plan Act (ARP)

- \$122B for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency fund (ARP ESSER)
- \$2.7B for Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools program (ARP-EANS)
- \$800M for Homeless Children and Youth fund (ARP-HCY)

Terms to Know

ESSER I: The ESSER Fund established in the CARES Act.

ESSER II: The additional funding for ESSER provided in the CRRSA Act.

ARP ESSER: The additional funding for ESSER provided in the ARP Act.

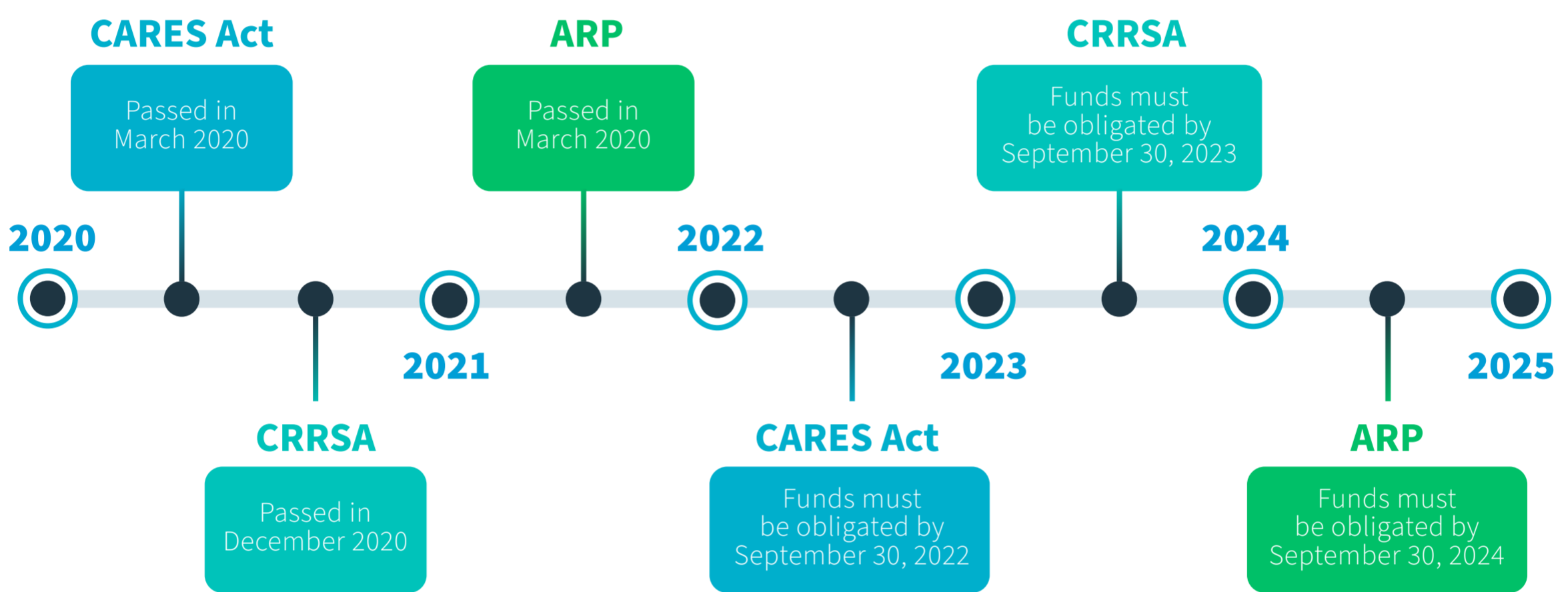
GEER I: The GEER Fund established in the CARES Act.

GEER II: The additional funding for GEER provided in the CRRSA Act.

LEA: Local Education Agency

SEA: State Education Agency

Notable Deadlines and Guidance



90% of ESSER funds must go to LEAs; states may retain the remaining 10% to address other related issues

Using Funds to Support Student Needs

Lightspeed's instructional audio solutions support whole-class and student engagement. With the help of federal pandemic relief funding, schools and districts can...



Strengthen Teacher-Student Relationships

Related ESSER Guidance:

Purchase edtech (hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, adaptive equipment) that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors.



Support English Language Learners

Related ESSER Guidance:

Address the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on underrepresented student subgroups, including English language learners.



Prioritize Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

Related ESSER Guidance:

Address the academic impact of lost instructional time and support students' social, emotional, mental health and academic needs.



Reinvest in Classroom & School Infrastructure

Related ESSER Guidance:

Promote long-term improvements in technology infrastructure and operations and their effective use.



Address Gaps in Learning

Related ESSER Guidance:

Implement evidence-based interventions aimed at addressing learning loss.