



**#291-21**

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Education  
Superintendent's Memo #291-21**

**DATE:** October 15, 2021  
**TO:** Division Superintendents  
**FROM:** James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction  
**SUBJECT:** **ARP Act ESSER III State Set-Aside Application Now Available - Addressing Unfinished Learning, Before and After School Programs, and Summer Programs Grants**

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act awarded emergency relief funds to states for elementary and secondary education through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund. The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) was awarded approximately \$2.1 billion through the ESSER III Fund. From the ESSER III funds reserved for state level programs and activities, the VDOE will award up to \$107 million to school divisions through three competitive grants:

- **Addressing Unfinished Learning** - up to \$65 million;
- **Before and After School Programs** - up to \$21 million; and
- **Summer Programs** - up to \$21 million.

A Local Education Agency (LEA) may choose to apply for any or all of these grant opportunities. The period of performance for the award is March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2024.

The application due date is **November 23, 2021**. The consolidated application and Guidelines, Instructions, and Assurances were made available to school division federal pandemic relief programs coordinators via a SharePoint site. The application must be

submitted through the web-based Online Management of Education Grant Awards (OMEGA) system.

### For more information

The Virginia Department of Education will host a webinar on the ESSER III state set-aside grant application process on **Wednesday, October 27, 2021**. Information on the webinar was provided to school division federal pandemic relief programs coordinators in a separate communication. Questions about the application process should be directed to [VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov).

JFL/MB/LS