



#148-21

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #148-21**

DATE: June 4, 2021
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **ARP Act ESSER State Plan Public Comment**

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is seeking public comment on its state plan under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund.

Virginia was awarded \$2.1 billion in ARP ESSER funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. Ninety percent of these funds were allocated to school divisions via [Superintendent's Memorandum #110-21](#). The remaining ten percent were retained at the state level to implement programs and activities to support school divisions and to administer the grant.

The VDOE requests input from the public on how funds retained at the state level should be used to assist school divisions in mitigating the effects of COVID-19 on teaching and learning. Commenters may wish to provide input on how students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs should be addressed, particularly for student groups that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Public comment should be sent to vdoefederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov and will be accepted through June 25, 2021. Input provided will inform the development of the ARP ESSER state plan.

For more information

Questions should be directed to vdoefederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/LS