

# Making the Most of Federal Funds

June 5, 2024





Making the Mostof Federal Funds for K-12

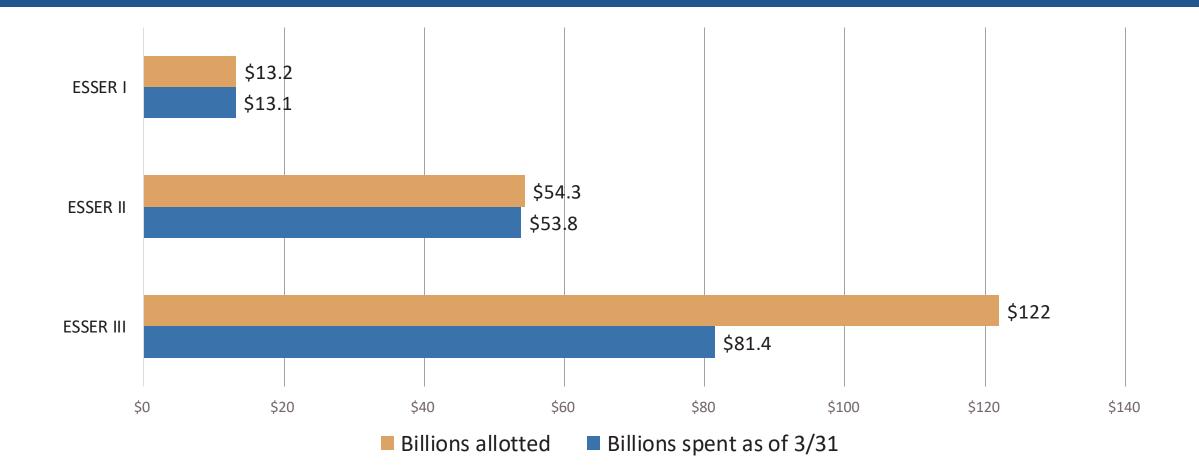




# **ESSER Fund**

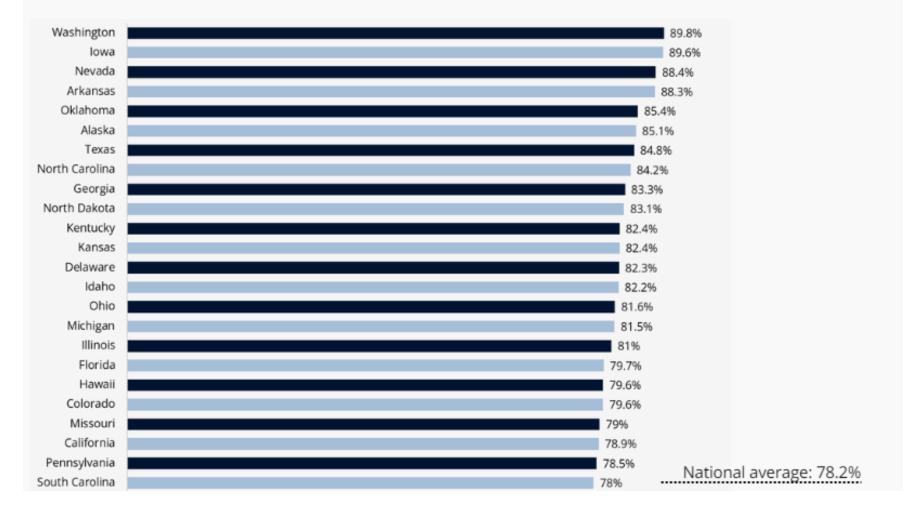


### Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund



### Progress in Spending Federal K-12 Covid Aid, By State

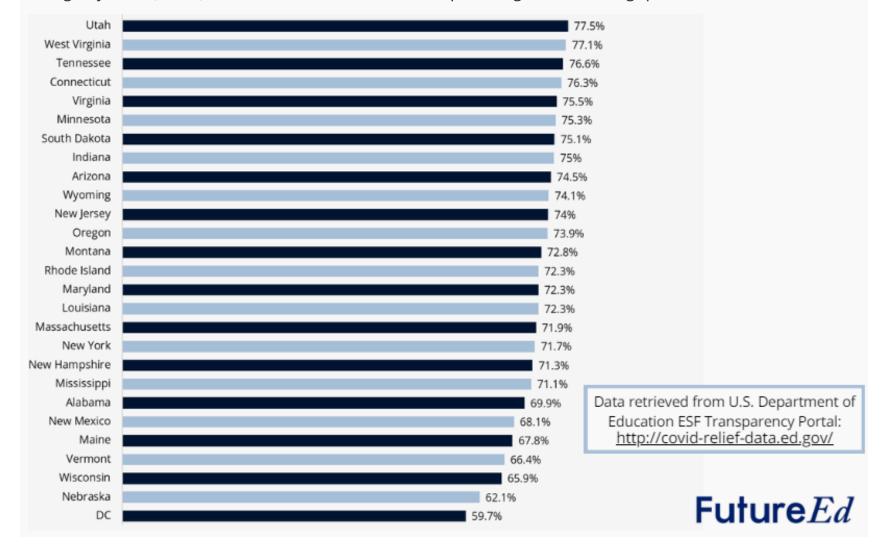
States and school districts received \$189.5 billion across three rounds of federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. The chart below shows the percentage of the funding spent as of March 31, 2024.





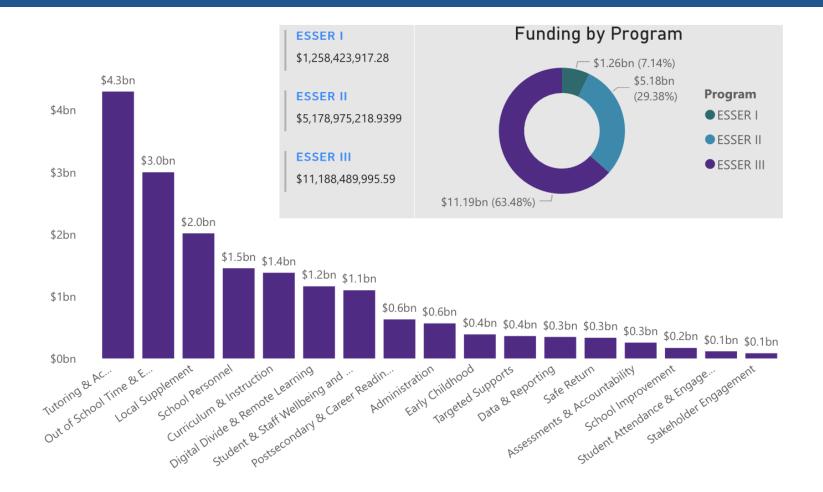
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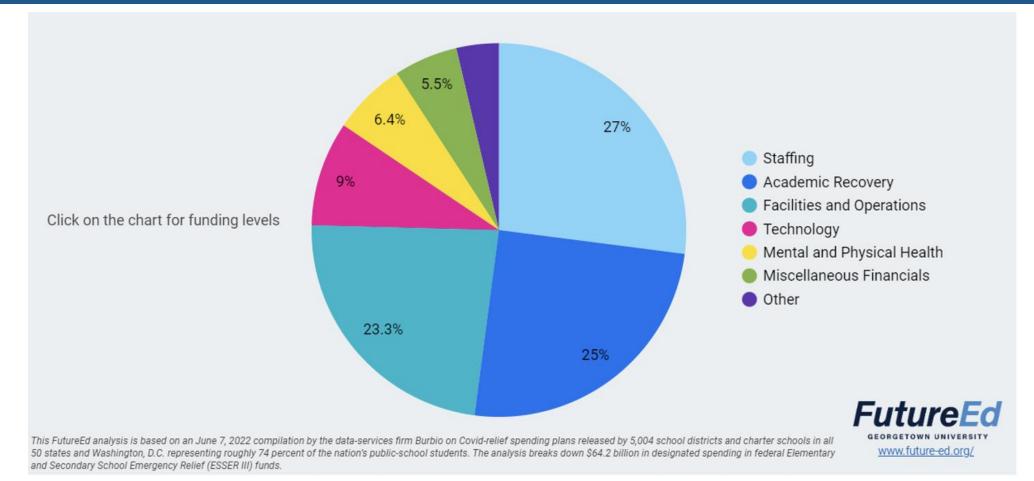


## 10% State Reserve Tracking (CCSSO)



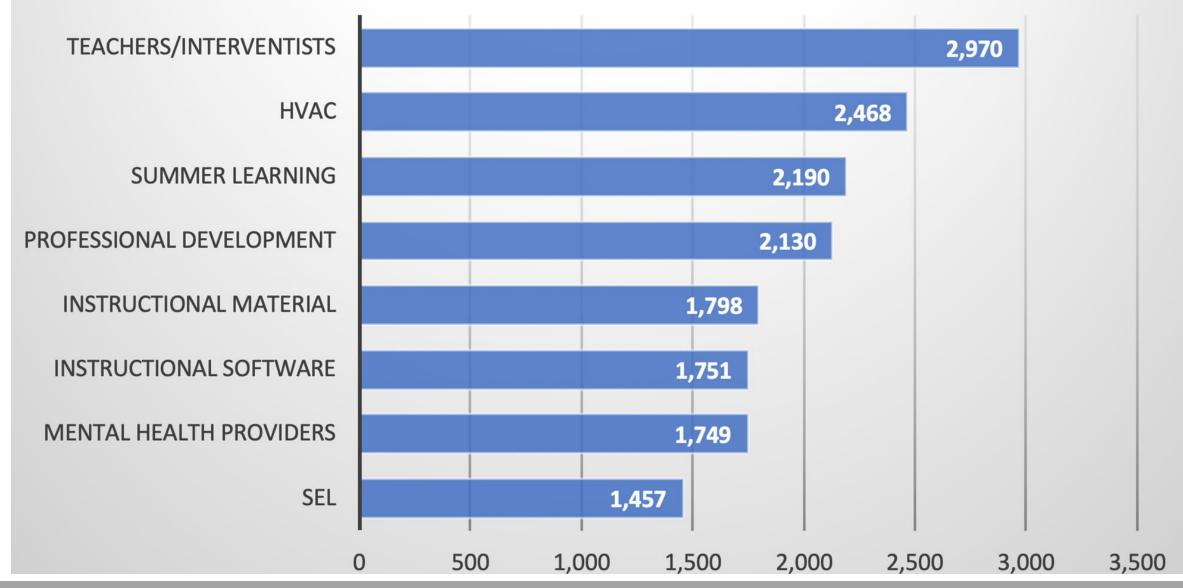


### FutureEdESSERSpendingAnalysis (Summer 2022)





# **Top Priorities, by Number of Districts**

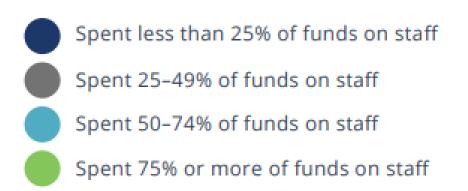


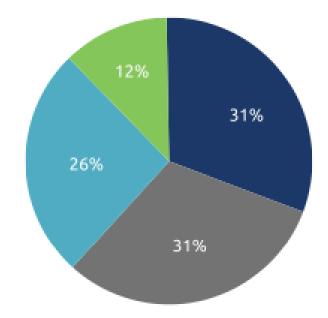


## ASBO ESSER Spending Analysis (Winter 2024)

#### HOW MUCH HAVE DISTRICTS SPENT ON STAFF?

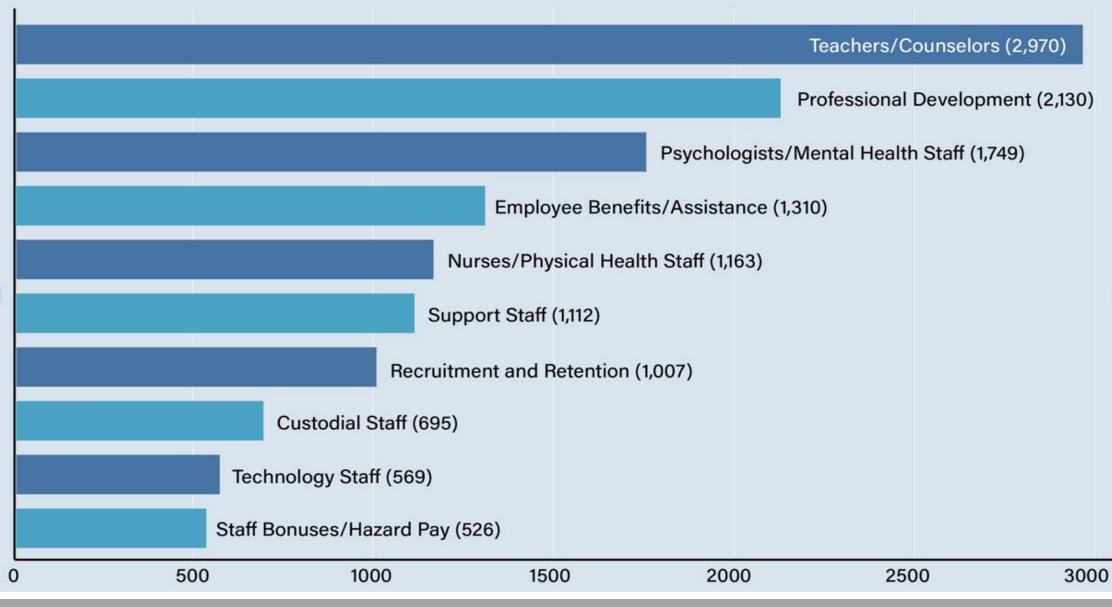
(% of Total ESSER II & III Funds)







### SCHOOL STAFFING



## Late Liquidation

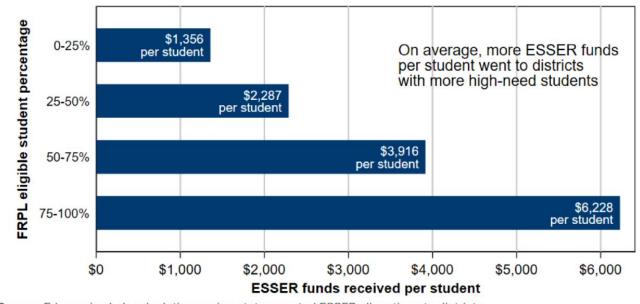
Requesting a 14-month extension to spend ESSER funds

- ESSER III obligation deadline: Sept. 30, 2024
- ESSER III spending deadline: Jan. 30, 2025
- Late Liquidation application deadline: Dec. 31, 2024
- Late Liquidation spending deadline: Mar. 28, 2026
  - Spending timeline extension ONLY for external contracts (via vendors)
    - DOES include tutoring, extending learning time, summer programs, etc.
    - DOES NOT include positions or services provided by existing employees
  - Districts sends extension requests to SEA, SEA submits bundled requests to USED

### The End of ESSER: Fiscal Slide versus Fiscal Cliff

#### FIGURE 1

# High-poverty districts, on average, received more ESSER funding and will face a steeper fiscal cliff when ESSER ends in 2024



**Source:** Edunomics Lab calculations using state-reported ESSER allocations to districts and 2019 NCES school poverty data.

**Note:** Figures represent total ESSER funds awarded over the nearly four-year grant period. *FRPL eligible student percentage* refers to the proportion of students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch using 2019-20 school year data.







# Medicaid in Schools



# Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA)

- Included substantial additional funding for school mental health by allocating additional funds for existing grant programs.
- Required several federal government actions to help schools more easily use Medicaid and CHIP dollars for school-based mental health services for eligible students.
  - Guidance from HHS and ED.
  - New technical assistance center.
  - Grants to states.

### Medicaid Free Care Rule Reversal

- Prior to 2014, schools could only bill Medicaid for services provided to children enrolled in Medicaid if the services were required under the child's IEP or IFSP.
  - Other services could not be billed to Medicaid if they were provided for free to all students (e.g., free flu shots for all students)
- The reversal of the free care rule was intended to allow more school-based services to be billed to Medicaid if provided to Medicaid-enrolled students
  - Implementation in states requires changes to state Medicaid plans, and in some cases, legislative changes
  - As of 2023, 25 states have at least partially expanded Medicaid coverage for schoolbased services

# New Grant Opportunity for States

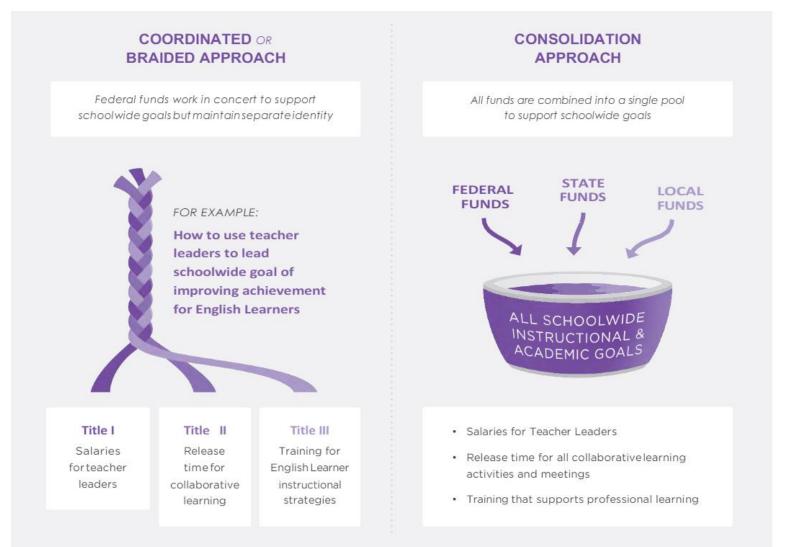
- Grants for the Implementation, Enhancement, and Expansion of Medicaid and CHIP School Based Services
  - Funding for state Medicaid agencies and state education agencies to work together to expand and improve the process of Medicaid coverage for school-based services
  - \$50 million to be awarded to up to 20 states, up to \$2.5 million per state
  - Application deadline for state Medicaid agencies was March 25
- Expanding Medicaid coverage for school-based services is one sustainable way to increase federal funding for mental and physical health services in schools



# Title I Funds



### ESEA Title I: Schoolwide Program + School Improvement Set-Aside



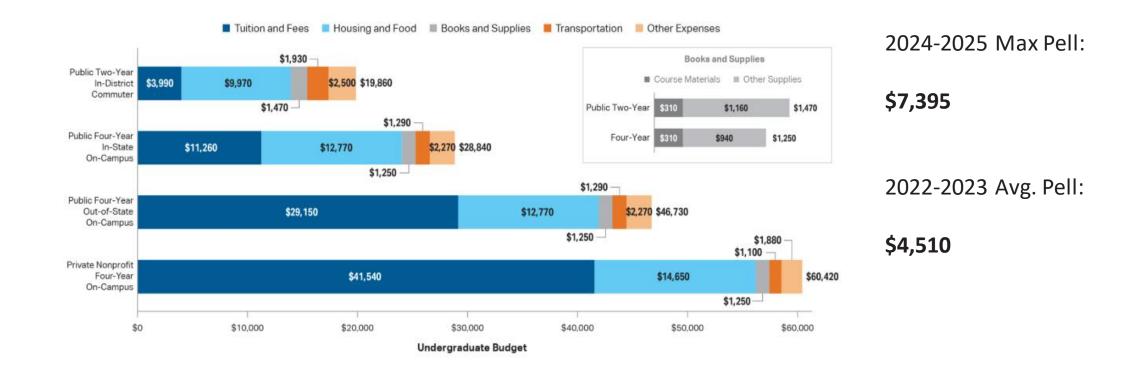
Making the Mostof Federal Funds for Higher Education



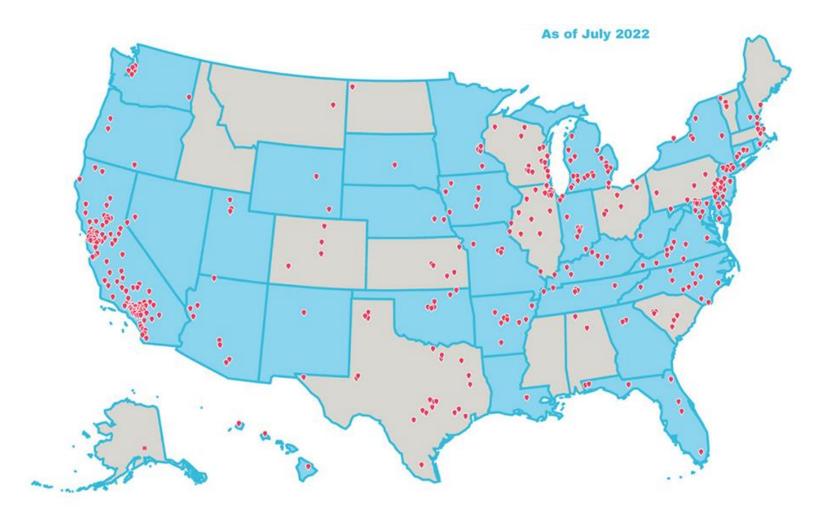


### Pell Grant as Foundation for College Promise Programs

#### Average Estimated Full-Time Undergraduate Budgets (Enrollment-Weighted) by Sector, 2023-24



### Pell Grant as Foundation for College Promise Programs



MCSL

### Federal Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP)

Income-driven Repayment, Saving On A Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan, Public Service Loan Forgiveness

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#### What Are the Major Changes in the Proposed IDR Plan?

- Increases the amount of income exempted from the calculation of monthly payments to 225 percent (from 150 percent) of the federal poverty guidelines;
- Reduces the amount of discretionary income that undergraduate borrowers pay to 5 percent (graduate borrowers continue to pay 10 percent);<sup>1</sup>
- Eliminates the accrual of unpaid interest when a borrower's payment does not cover the entire amount of interest due;
- Allows borrowers with lower balances to receive early forgiveness; and
- Authorizes the Department of Education to automatically enroll borrowers in an IDR plan if they are 75 days delinquent on payments.

### Federal Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP)

Income-driven Repayment and Saving On A Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan, Public Service Loan Forgiveness

	\$60k	\$227	\$130	\$34	\$0	\$0
	\$50k	\$143	\$47	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$40k	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Income	\$30k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$20k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$10k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
		1	2	3	4	5
		Family Size				

#### Estimated Monthly Payment Under the SAVE Plan

Making the Mostof Federal Funds for Early Childhood



### Federal Funding Streams for Child Care and Early Childhood Education

#### Report 🛈

#### Federal Funding Streams for Child Care and Early Childhood Education

Updated May 13, 2024 | Emily Katz



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#### **Key Takeaways**

There are many federal funding streams that can support child care access and affordability, creating a patchwork system of funding.

The federal government has several different approaches to providing funding for child care and early childhood, with state involvement varying significantly across programs.

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