

Montezuma-Cortez RE-1 School District — ESSER I

Federal Stimulus Funding for Montezuma-Cortez RE-1

| How much funding was allocated to Montezuma-Cortez RE-1? | ESSER I Additional Information Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022 |
|--|--|
| CRF: \$1,597,768 | <p>ESSER I funds provided vital resources to districts to address the social and economic disruption caused by the coronavirus outbreak that impacted all school districts starting in March 2020.</p> <p>The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The top uses of ESSER I funds for our district are provided in the explanation below.</p> |
| ESSER I (CARES Act): \$799,984 Addressing the immediate crisis Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022 | |
| ESSER II (CRRSA Act): \$4,665,230 Providing stability and managing the health crisis Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2023 | |
| ESSER III (ARP Act): \$10,240,987 Recovery and acceleration Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2024 Use of Funds Plan | |
| GEER (Other): \$257,138 | |

Includes ESSER supplemental funds provided to districts. An [acronyms glossary](#) is available below.



How are students being supported through the use of federal stimulus dollars?

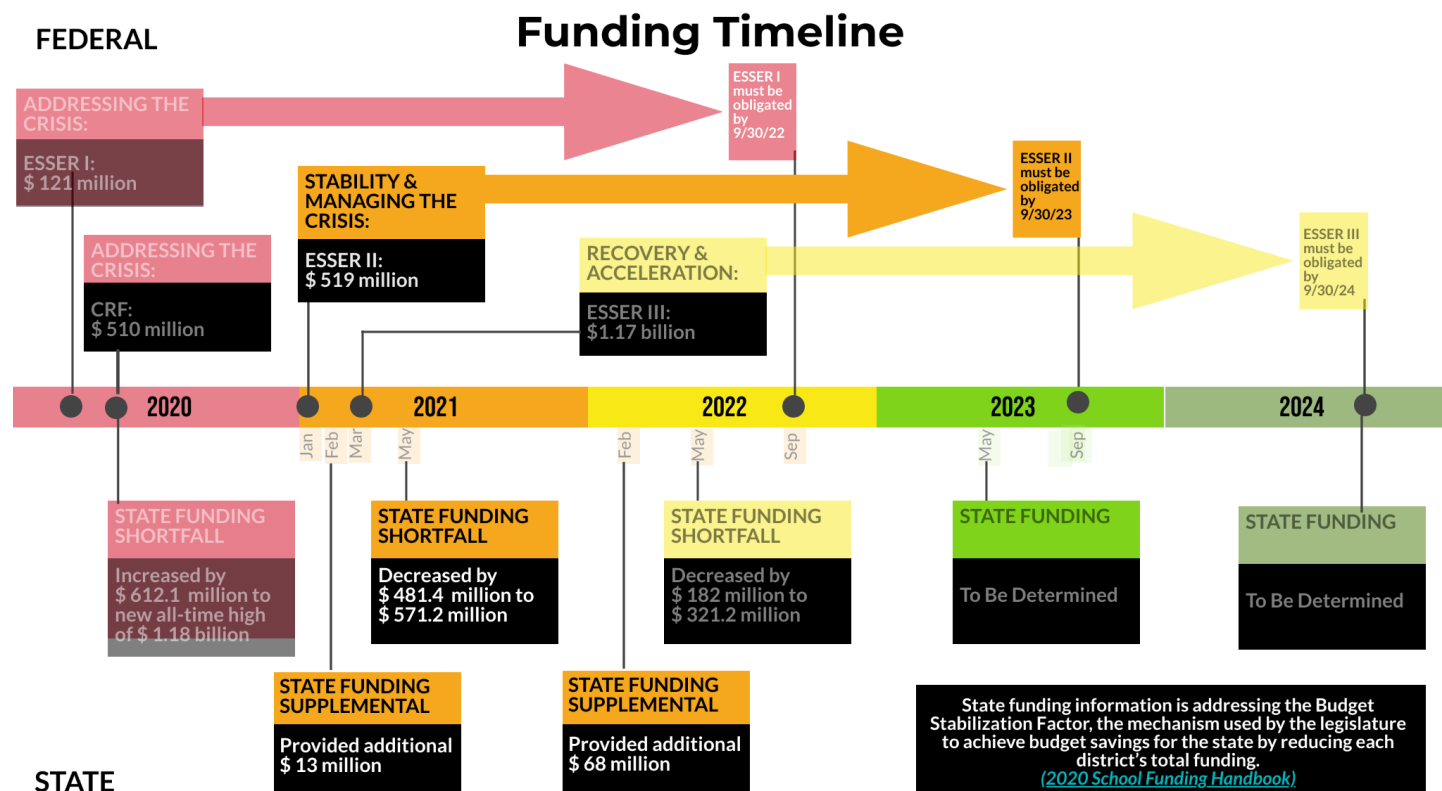
The federal stimulus dollars are a once-in-a-generation opportunity to support our students and to address the multi-year effects of the coronavirus pandemic. The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to

identify and address their most urgent local needs in order to:

- Create safe and healthy learning environments
- Address lost instructional time
- Meet mental health needs of students and staff
- Support educators and staff stability and well-being

In addition to mitigating the effects of the pandemic, the shortfall in state funding to Colorado schools during the 2020-21 school year doubled and the one-time federal stimulus funds helped to temporarily mitigate the significant loss in funding to school districts. As Colorado spends less on education per student than most other states, a teacher shortage existed before the pandemic

making it difficult for school districts to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers. **While all the one-time federal stimulus dollars will expire by September 30, 2024, they have supported local students and communities weather the effects of the pandemic.**



ESSER I — Addressing the immediate crisis

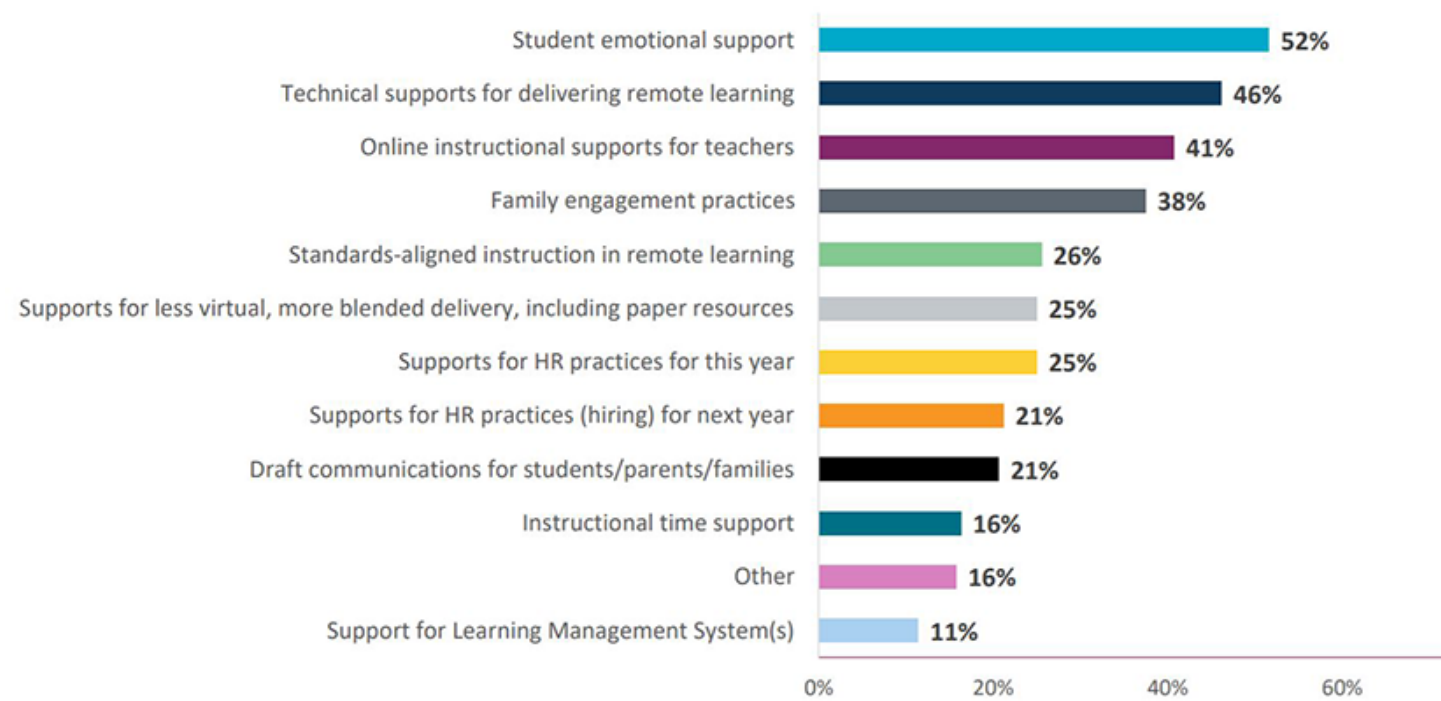
Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022

In March 2020, the CARES Act established the Education Stabilization Fund, which initially provided funding for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) I Fund. **ESSER I Fund dollars were appropriated to states based on the 2019-20 Title I shares with 90% allocated to local education agencies (LEAs) that received a Title I allocation in the most recent fiscal year and the remaining 10% for a state reserve fund.** ESSER I funding for **Montezuma-Cortez RE-1** was based on its [Title I allocation](#) and an [ESSER I supplemental](#) made by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). View CDE's [Federal COVID Education Funding website](#) for additional details.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CDE administered the district and charter needs inventory from late March to early April. Statewide, the top four education supports identified as the top priorities across all regions of the state were: student emotional support; technical support for delivering remote learning; online instructional support for teachers; and family engagement practices. While there was variability in the top community need identified across regions, **internet connectivity** and **food access** were the two community needs that commonly appeared as a top

need in most regions across the state.¹ The following chart summarizes the percentages of districts selecting the following education supports as top needs during March and April 2020.

Percentage Selecting the Following Education Supports as Top Needs



Source: Colorado School District Needs Inventory, April 17, 2020

It is also important to recognize that the decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The following information demonstrates the top ESSER I investment priorities for Montezuma-Cortez RE-1 based on November 2022 CDE data.



INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1: Providing all students with access to a safe and inclusive learning environment [building and infrastructure needs only]

School leaders, educators, and staff elevated the priority of physically safe communities to support their students during the pandemic. Several mitigation factors, including cleaning and disinfecting buildings, ventilation of classrooms, handwashing and disinfecting stations, and other strategies were employed. It was also important to ensure that preexisting ventilation, roofing, and plumbing needs did not inhibit healthy learning environments in order to support student learning.

¹ Colorado School District Needs Inventory, April 17, 2020

Our district prioritized the following as one of our top investments made with ESSER I funding: **Cleaning supplies (\$80,596)**. Cleaning supplies for Montezuma Cortez School District schools, buses and administrative offices. Additional supplies will allow custodial staff, teachers, bus drivers to sanitize work, learning spaces throughout the day so that students and staff can be in school safely during COVID and allow for deep cleanings during a quarantine period. Supplies include but are not limited to chemicals, spray bottles, bus sprayers and chemicals, gloves etc. and will be used during the 20-21.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 2: Supporting equitable access and effective use of technology

According to the April 2020 Colorado District Needs Inventory, technical supports for delivering remote learning and online instructional supports for teachers were common needs across Colorado. Internet connectivity (e.g., broadband and Wi-Fi access) was the top community need identified by respondents, with 53 percent reporting that this was a key need.

Our district prioritized the following as one of our top investments made with ESSER I funding: **SupportProgram (\$71,100)**. Tuition for district secondary students enrolled in CDLS online school due to COVID. This is for the second semester 2020-2021.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 3: Supporting equitable access and effective use of technology

Our district prioritized the following as one of our top investments made with ESSER I funding: **Chromebooks/iPads (\$69,056)**. Montezuma Cortez School District purchased chrome books/ipads so that each student will have access to a device in the event of a cohort/school shut down due to COVID-19. This one to one capability will allow students to continue learning while in quarantine at home. Insurance will cover loss, damage and replacement for the machines to be taken home for the cost of \$26 per machine for approximately 2690 machines.

Future fact sheets will be available to provide additional details on ESSER II and III funding. You can also find additional information and resources on the [Colorado School Finance Project ESSER website](#).



Montezuma-Cortez RE-1 Student and District Characteristics

Students: 2,618

Rural: Yes, Rural

Free and Reduced Lunch: 60%

Special Education: 14%

Gifted and Talented: 3%

BOCES: San Juan BOCES

Other Funding Facts

2019-2020 Total Program Funding: \$22,770,285 (\$8,229 Per Pupil Funding)

2020-2021 Total Program Funding: \$21,104,455 (\$7,810 Per Pupil Funding)

2021-2022 Total Program Funding: \$23,612,356 (\$8,756 Per Pupil Funding)

Local Share: 45%

State Share: 55%

Loss in state share for the 2020-21 school year: **-\$3,089,503**

Loss in state share for the 2021-22 school year: **-\$1,475,204**

Cumulative loss in state share since 2009-10: **-\$30,360,218**



Learn more at the Montezuma-Cortez RE-1 website:

<http://www.cortez.k12.co.us>

ACRONYMS GLOSSARY

ESSER State Reserve Funds Acronym Glossary

| Acronym | Description |
|---------|---|
| ARP | American Rescue Plan Act |
| CARES | Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act |
| CRF | Coronavirus Relief Fund |
| CRRSA | Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act |
| EANS | Emergency Aid for Non-public Schools |
| ESSER | Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund |
| GEER | Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund |
| HCY | Homeless Children and Youth |
| IDEA | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act |
| LEAs | Local Education Agencies |
| LSTA | Library Services & Technology Act |

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Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

The CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to support states with expenses due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 incurred from March 1, 2020, to Dec. 30, 2020. In May 2020, Gov. Polis directed the transfer of \$510 million from the State of Colorado's CARES Act CRF to CDE to be awarded to school districts, the Charter School Institute, the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind and facility schools on a per pupil basis. Additionally, each BOCES in the state received \$25,000.

Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

The CARES Act included \$3 billion for a Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. Colorado was allocated more than \$44 million from the GEER fund. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020 added \$4.05 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. GEER II included \$2.75 billion for emergency assistance to nonpublic schools through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) grants of which \$28,433,931 has been allocated to Colorado.