



Quick Guide to Investing in Early Learning

Using ESSER Funding

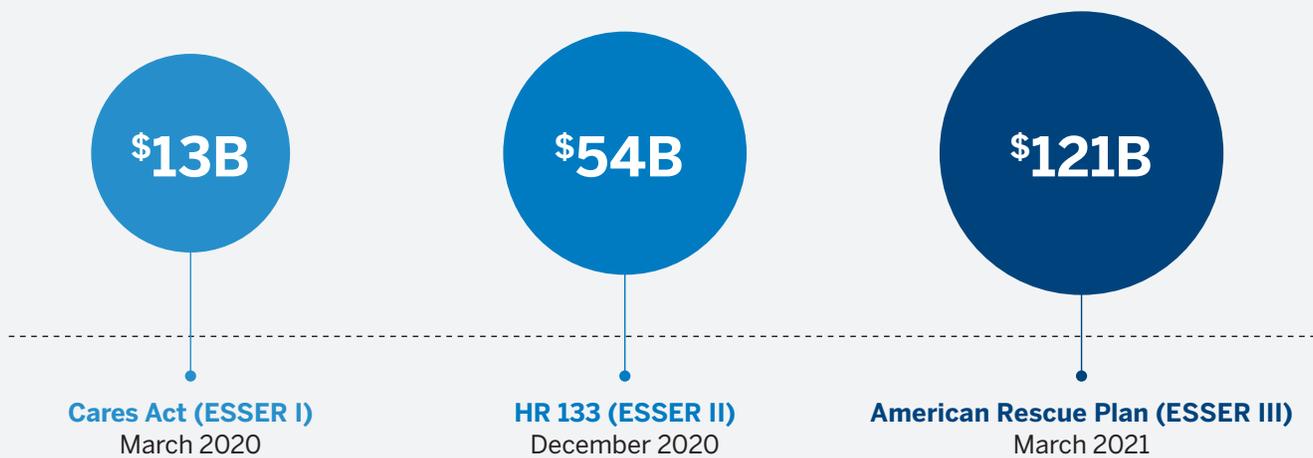


Introduction

With the influx of stimulus funding now available to schools and districts, the time to invest in high-quality early learning programs that meet the needs of all children is now. Several funding priorities make it possible to implement developmentally appropriate instructional programs that prepare our earliest learners for success in school, work, and life by

- **using valid and reliable formative assessment** to accurately identify each child's skills, knowledge, and abilities and provide individualized instruction;
- **implementing research-based, investigative, and joyful learning experiences** to meet the needs of the whole child, in the classroom or in a distance learning environment;
- **providing information and assistance to families** on how they can effectively support their children with rich, ongoing opportunities to connect learning in the classroom and learning at home; and
- **helping young children build resiliency** and the skills they need to prepare for life's challenges with an evidence-based social-emotional learning curriculum.

Education Stimulus Funding At-a-Glance



How School Districts Can Use Stimulus Funding to Support Early Learning

Schools and districts have flexibility in how stimulus funding may be utilized for any allowable Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund use, including

- **identifying and addressing learning opportunity loss,**
- **summer learning,**
- **social-emotional learning,**
- **distance learning,**
- **professional development, and**
- **improving software & technology.**





Other Early Childhood Stimulus

With pandemic-related learning opportunity loss as a major focus, school leaders can maximize the use of these additional funds in ways that ensure their schools are ready for children when they return to the classroom, such as by

- evaluating where children are pre- and post-pandemic in order to effectively scaffold their development for the next school year;
- supporting family members in the development of learning goals so they are appropriate and meaningful to their children; and

- providing teachers with the tools and resources they need to support the immediate and long-term needs of the children, including strengthening teachers' capacity to differentiate instruction and use their data to facilitate whole-group, small-group, and individualized learning experiences.

The U.S. Department of Education [released additional guidance](#) on the need for extensive professional development programs targeting new and early-career teachers in order to strengthen their use of technology in the classroom and with families and implement a school-wide social-emotional learning approach.

Leverage Your ESSER Funding to Invest in Teaching Strategies® Early Learning Solutions

The Teaching Strategies® connected ecosystem of curriculum, assessment, professional development, family engagement, and social-emotional resources supports many of the priorities of ESSER funding and can help you create powerful early learning experiences that are more effective, more efficient, and more accessible to everyone.

Teaching Strategies® Solutions Mapped to Legislative Priorities

		Learning Opportunity Loss	Summer Learning	Differentiated Needs	Family Engagement	Social-Emotional Learning	Hybrid, Remote & Distance Learning
The Creative Curriculum®	Research-Based, Whole-Child Curriculum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GOLD®	Formative and Summative Assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Professional Development	In-Person, Virtual, and Online Professional Learning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ReadyRosie	Research-Based Parenting Curriculum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Al's Pals™	Evidence-Based Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Family Learning Packs	Summer Learning Experiences	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



The Creative Curriculum®

Nationally known for its forward-thinking, rigorously researched whole-child approach and trusted for decades by early childhood educators, *The Creative Curriculum*® builds children's confidence, creativity, and critical thinking skills through hands-on, project-based investigations.



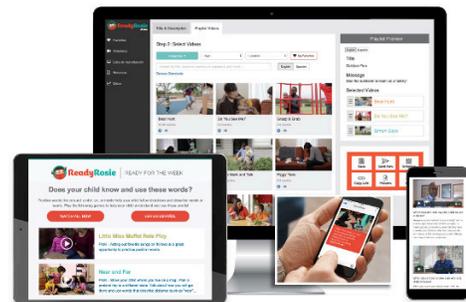
GOLD®

GOLD® is a valid, reliable, and scalable formative and summative assessment solution that drives better learning outcomes for the whole child. Embed ongoing, authentic, observation-based assessment into everyday interactions with children.



Professional Development

Our wide variety of professional development options include comprehensive in-person sessions; flexible live, virtual sessions; and a comprehensive library of self-paced online courses. Our offerings build and strengthen educators' capacity and foster professional growth.



ReadyRosie

This research-based family engagement tool is based on seven essential principles for transformative family partnerships. ReadyRosie™ supports families with mobile-friendly videos and tools (in English and Spanish) that show real families modeling fun activities that support learning.



Al's Pals™ Kids Making Healthy Choices

Al's Pals is an evidence-based, comprehensive social-emotional learning curriculum and professional development program designed for the specific needs of preschool children. The program promotes resiliency through social-emotional learning and the development of self-control and problem-solving skills.



Family Learning Packs

Family Learning Packs are designed to empower families and elevate their role in school readiness. Each pack includes a family subscription to ReadyRosie™ and *MarcoPolo World School*, children's books, and a backpack filled with learning materials.

To learn more about how Teaching Strategies can help you leverage ESSER funding to strengthen your early learning program, [contact an education consultant today.](#)