

Wortham Independent School District
ESSER III Use of Funds Plan
(Grant Life 2020/2021 – 2023/2024)

Entitlement: \$714,763

Purpose: The ESSER III Grant is federally funded through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). The intent and purpose of the ARP ESSER III funding is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. ESSER III is a two-year grant which allows for pre-award costs and carry-over funds to extend to a third year. Generally, the District proposes to use the funds to meet the needs of students and staff addressing instructional continuity, maintaining a safe and healthy environment, allowable salaries, and issues that are related to the impact of COVID-19.

Public comment and input was provided through an advisory committee of required stakeholders, survey results from the community, and public notification and comment taken during the June 21, 2021 Board Meeting. Input data from these sources was considered for the final *Use of Funds Plan* implemented in the ESSER III Federal Grant Application submitted to the Texas Education Agency.

The *ESSER III Use of Funds Plan* will be reviewed to determine if revisions are needed every six months through September 30, 2024.

The following activities will be addressed with ESSER III funding:

Activities authorized under Elementary and Secondary Education Act (A1)	\$ 71,110
o Guided Reading Materials gr K-3	
o GPS Math Invention gr 2-10 (manipulatives and consumables)	
o Fast Focus Math Program gr 3-8	
Activities authorized under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (A2)	\$202,541
o Freestone Navarro Bi-County Cooperative – Special Education services	
o Freestone Navarro Bi-County Cooperative – Behavior Specialist	
Educational Technology for Students (A14)	\$108,449
o Technology Devices that aid in regular/substantive education interaction between students and instructors (Chromebooks, Carts interactive projectors)	
Providing mental health services and support (A15)	*\$ 1,500
o Counselor professional development through ESC Region 12 attending to affect – social/emotional learning, and other topics that lend to counselor growth and capacity to meet student/staff	

needs

Providing Classroom Instruction during Summer months (A16)	*\$ 30,000
o Summer School/Extended Year Jump Start – staff extra duty pay	
Providing supplemental afterschool instruction (A17)	*\$ 40,000
o Extended day (after-school) tutoring – staff extra duty pay	
Learning loss among District students - Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students (B2)	*\$120,900
o Instructional Paraprofessionals providing intervention strategies	
o ESC professional development/coaching on lesson planning and formative assessment	
o Reading Academy professional development for gr K-3 teachers	
Other activities necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services (B10)	\$ 43,295
o Required Reading Academy participation – teacher stipend	
o Grant technical assistance and compliance monitoring	
 Indirect Costs including activities to administer grant and other allowable general fund uses	 \$ 96,968

*USDE spending set-aside requirement - minimum of 20% of entitlement to address learning loss and academic impact of loss of instruction time. Wortham ISD has designated 27% of ESSER III funds toward specific learning loss strategies.

- *Activities include evidence-based interventions, such as during school interventions supplemental to basic program, summer learning or enrichment, extended school day tutoring, professional development; and ensure interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address disproportionate impact of coronavirus on student populations.*