



CARES Act/ARP ESSER Funds

The CARES Act provides approximately \$31 billion in emergency education funding to students, schools, institutions, and states across the country. The \$13.5 billion Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund is based on the number of students in poverty in the same manner as funding provided under Title I, Part A.

The American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund passed in March 2021 and provides \$122 billion to states and school districts to help safely reopen and address student learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Allowable Activities for ESSER Funds	Lerner Books Support for Related Programs
Any activities authorized by ESSA, IDEA, the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (as related to education programs for homeless children and youth)	<p>Lerner classroom libraries, summer reading take-home packs, and individual titles support the entire curriculum by providing high-quality authentic literature in a wide variety of subjects and genres, standards-based strategies to teach skills, differentiated instruction to meet every child's learning needs, and components to support a balanced literacy program.</p> <p>Lerner books and activities include multiple ways to increase parents' involvement in their children's education.</p> <p>Lerner classroom libraries and teacher resources provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instructional strategies that provide standards-aligned, easy-to-use lesson plans• Research studies that inform the program• Teacher Guides for key titles• Assessment strategies• Professional books written by accredited reading researchers and specialists
Activities needed to address the unique needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth	<p>Lerner's Read for a Better World collection offers take-home packs with books to keep, including award-winning fiction and nonfiction titles never before available in paperback form. The summer reading program includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A broad selection of genres, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, humor, reference, and others• Diverse books that allow students to see themselves and the experiences of others around the world• Books and activities that support social emotional development, provide opportunities for reflection, and encourage using student voices to inspire change• IDEA Sheets include activities to increase family involvement in their children's education, including writing exercises, extended learning, and discussion prompts <p>Lerner Digital™ offers a variety of multi-user digital formats to meet individual readers' needs. Digital formats available include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• eBooks: Thousands of fiction and nonfiction titles support curriculum content, offer research opportunities, or provide options for pleasure reading. Many eBooks may be downloaded to devices and accessed without an internet connection• eBooks with Audio: Audio narration and sentence highlighting help listeners with fluency and comprehension skills and spark interest with reluctant and struggling readers, auditory learners, and ELL/ESL students• Interactive Books: Improve literacy skills for emergent and struggling readers, auditory learners, and ELL/ESL and special needs students. The read-aloud operation features three reading speeds—below grade level, at grade level, and fluent—to support individual learners• Audiobooks: Fiction and nonfiction titles available are every type of learner. Audiobooks can be especially helpful for ESL/ELL students and struggling readers

CARES Act/ARP ESSER Funds, cont.

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Activities needed to address the unique needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth (cont.)	<p>The Lerner™ Sports Database provides sports content and helps readers develop research skills. The database is accessible by students both in-school and remotely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Database is compatible with text-to-speech and enhanced text visibility programs to ensure all learners can read and succeed • Articles can be instantly translated into over 100 languages via Google Translate • Lerner™ Sports promotes digital literacy and correlates to AASL Learning Standards, CSTA Computer Science Standards, and Common Core Standards regarding technology, research, and comprehension
Resources for principals and school leaders to meet the needs of their schools	<p>Lerner classroom libraries and activity books benefit all students, including low-achieving students and those at risk of not meeting state standards through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriately challenging, leveled books that allow students to successfully gain reading skills without frustration • Small-group, shared, and paired instruction that support students' learning • Lessons that provide scaffolding through modeling, mentoring, and skills reinforcement • Meaningful practice activities <p>Additional resources available for educators include teaching and discussion guides and supplemental eSource teaching materials</p>
Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, such as providing meals to students, providing online learning to all students, and providing guidance on carrying out IDEA requirements	<p>Lerner Digital™ titles are accessible via an online Bookshelf, allowing for remote, multi-user simultaneous access, with many books available for downloading for off-line use.</p> <p>The Lerner™ Sports Database is accessible online by students both in-school and remotely.</p>
Purchasing and implementing summer learning and after school programs	<p>The Read for a Better World Summer Reading collection is one tool families and educators can use to keep students engaged over the summer. To build these kits, we reached out to experts including principals, superintendents, librarians, reading specialists, and master teachers to deliver a variety of reading experiences and text types while keeping a theme of diverse perspectives front and center.</p>