

HOS Report
6/23/21

Recently submitted

FIN 150 application, Read Well by Third Grade data/plan, DIRS, Target Services Initial Budget Projection

Safe Learning Plan, moving forward

After our last teacher day, the current safe learning plan essentially expires and we are bound to follow [Universal Guidance for All Businesses](#). This expires July 1 according to Executive orders, or once the state reaches 70% of eligible people vaccinated-whichever comes first. There should be new guidelines at that time.

This [link](#) will take you to a folder with the current BMS plan docs, which will need to be reviewed and changed again come July 1.

One big decision lingering with summer programming coming up in July is whether or not to require face coverings. More guidance will supposedly be available by early July.

Student teachers next year

We have 2 student teachers lined up in Children's House, and 2 SPED practicum students as well.

Summer Programming

We are using funds FIN 162, FIN 150, and Targeted Services as the foundation, "braiding" them to allow for low staff/student ratios. We are working to finalize the Targeted Services Spreadsheet for submission to HVED this week, and have approximately 35 students signed up. CH I, E1C, and E2C will all be open, as will a small group in Erdkinder. Dates and times are July 12-July 30th, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

VOA conference

Sherry and I attended the VOA conference last week in Bemidji. There were numerous presentations and fun activities. Here is the [agenda](#) if interested. We submitted a [Bluffview Organizational Chart](#) as well.

The VOA contract was submitted 2 weeks ago, and we are awaiting final MDE approval.

Additionally, Rod will come down for our July meeting and present a VOA Governance training to the Board. Rochelle will also come down to meet with me and the treasurer to review the financial guidelines that VOA has. These areas, along with academics, are the 3 primary buckets that our oversight is compartmentalized. Stephanie will be setting up a site visit as well. They are our three primary contacts.

ESSER III requirements

One main point here is that the Stay Safe Learning Plan, which is going to be changed to the "Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan," required that the plan contain certain elements and that it be open for public comment before June 21. Renee has taken care of that on the

website-we posted the plan that we were under as it was the active plan. It has a survey that is linked with it, and the results of that survey will be posted as well to meet the federal requirements. This process was made fairly easy due to the detailed plans that MDE had us make already. The plan will be updated before next school year starts.

- Here is the [link](#) for the plan, survey, and survey results spreadsheet.

Federal Relief Funding Updates

Resources

- [Federal COVID-19 Funding Flow Chart](#): In response to a number requests, MDE has put together a one-page flow chart that shows all of the various federal relief funds that have come to the State of Minnesota for Education. This flow chart can be found on MDE's [Federal Relief Funds](#) webpage.
- Application and budget steps: MDE has recently posted updated SERVS Application and Budget Steps instructions which includes information on how to accept funds, modify budgets and carrying funds forward. This document can be found at [Federal COVID-19 Funds Application and Budget Steps](#).

Required “Safe Return to In-Person Learning” Plan

As a condition of accepting the ESSER III award (FIN160 & FIN161), the LEA must develop, with community input, a Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan and **post it for public comment within 30 days of receiving the ESSER III award (June 21, 2021)**. The requirements for the ESSER III Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan can be found in the [Interim Final Rule](#) and must describe how “[the LEA] will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.” The Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan must be reviewed regularly, at least every six months, and the LEA must seek additional public comment on revisions. LEAs must retain documentation of the plan development, plan review, public comment, and summary of public comment.

The recent [FAQ document from ED](#) published last week highlights in A-4: “[a]n LEA that developed a school reopening and continuity of services plan prior to the date of enactment of the ARP Act and that meets the above requirements for public comment will be deemed in compliance but, within no more than six months, the LEA must review and, if necessary, revise the plan to meet the requirements of the interim final requirements.” Minnesota LEAs that followed the MN [Safe Learning Plan](#) guidance and included staff, families, and students in the development (page 9) are likely close to meeting this federal requirement with the addition of public comment before June 21 and updates within the next six months.

Email mde.federalCOVIDfunds@state.mn.us with questions.

Additional Information and Upcoming Deadlines

GEER I and ESSER I Summer 2020 Funding (FIN151, FIN152, FIN153)

These funds are for technology and summer school programming starting in summer 2020. These funds are being distributed via SERVS.

- Applications were due by May 1, 2021 (this deadline has passed)
- Funds for expenditures from January 1-June 30, 2021 must be drawn by September 15, 2021
- Funds can be spent through September 30, 2022 and must be drawn by December 12, 2022

Flexible American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds for Summer Academic and Mental Health Supports (FIN150)

\$33.6 million partnerships and support to provide services to expand summer academic and mental health supports including transportation and meals, school-based summer programs in the community, and opportunities for enrichment, social and emotional skill building, mental health supports, and field trips for hands-on learning opportunities.

- Streamlined applications are now available in SERVS
- FY 21 application is due June 18, 2021
- FY 22 application will be posted by June 18, 2021
- Funds for this initiative are available through September 30, 2022

ESSER II

- The applications for ESSER II 90% allocation and the allocation to entities that don't receive the 90% allocation are due June 30, 2021 (FIN155 or FIN156)

Expanded Summer Programming (FIN162, FIN163 and FIN164) under ESSER II

\$57.5 million in funding for teachers to support in-person instruction as well as other expenses related to providing summer school, including class size reduction, longer programming hours or days, enrichment supports, transportation, or personal protective equipment.

- The allocation is based on actual student membership hours. This will be determined at the end of the summer and final allocations will be made. Unallocated dollars will be carried forward for summer programs next summer.
- Dollars allocated and not expended will be carried forward for next summer.

ARP ESSER III Applications (FIN160 & FIN161)

The [allocations and applications for ESSER III 90% to LEAs](#) (following the SY21 Title I, Part A formula) are available in [SERVS Financial](#) under finance codes (FIN) 160 and 161. Applications are due no later than October 1, 2021. LEAs are able to immediately obligate allowable activities

to the FIN160 and FIN161 awards. The obligation period is July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2024. LEAs can draw down against FIN160 and FIN161 once there is an approved application and budget in SERVS and the services are received by the LEA.

Both applications allow for rapid approval when the LEA is using all ESSER III funds to support allowable activities under the [State Education Priorities](#). For FIN161, the activities must be for summer learning or enrichment, comprehensive afterschool programs, extended day programs, and/or extended year programs. Review the [ESSER III FIN160 & FIN161 Overview](#) document for more information.

Email mde.federalCOVIDfunds@state.mn.us with questions.

Other

SY22 ESEA Title applications (FIN401, FIN406, FIN414, FIN417, and FIN433) will open in SERVS next week and are due September 1, 2021. Allocations for these finance codes are posted on the MDE website.

[3/12/21 updated Stay Safe Learning Plan](#)

[Newest Quarantine Guidance 12/7](#)

[BMS website dashboard](#)

[Daily Reported Case Tracking doc](#)

[Stay Safe MN 14 day data for K-12 by County](#)