



Proposed Use of Federal Grant Funds
&

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

(Rev. 7/23/2021)

Heritage Academy Charter Schools

School Year: 2021

Table with 3 rows detailing Title I, Part A (Fund 211.0) \$162,076; Title II, Part A (Fund 255) \$18,438; and Title IV, Part A (Fund 289) \$13,196. Each row includes Program Intent and Proposed Uses.

**Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I) entitlement (Fund
266): \$127,072**

Program Intent:

This emergency funding that will expire in September 2022 will allow the district to pay for the direct costs incurred for planning and mitigation of the coronavirus pandemic such as additional technology, hot spots for internet service, costs of distance learning, and cleaning of buildings to include staff time and supplies, planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care. Pre-award proposed costs dating back to March 13, 2020, are eligible.

Proposed Uses:

1. District discretion for any activity authorized under:
 - Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
 - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
 - Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
 - McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act
2. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of the district with State and local public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
3. Providing principals and others school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.
4. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.
5. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of the district.
6. Training and professional development for staff of the district on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
7. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of the district, including buildings operated by such agency.
8. Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including for how to provide meals to eligible students, how to provide technology for online learning to all students, how to provide guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) and how to ensure other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.
9. Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the district that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment;
10. Providing mental health services and support.
11. Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care;
12. Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in LEAs and continuing to employ existing staff of the district.

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA)
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II) entitlement (Fund 281): \$601,726

Program Intent:

This emergency funding that will expire in September 2023 is intended to help school districts safely reopen schools, measure and effectively address significant learning loss, and take other actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the students and families who depend on our PK-12 schools. Pre-award proposed costs dating back to March 13, 2020, are eligible.

Proposed Uses:

1. Will be used for activities authorized under ESEA, IDEA, and Carl D. Perkins (CTE).
2. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts with State and local public health departments to improve coordinated responses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.
3. Activities 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.
4. Develop/implement procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts.
5. Training for staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
6. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean facilities.
7. Plan, coordinate, implement activities during long-term closures, including (a) meals to eligible students, (b) technology for online learning, (c) guidance for carrying out requirements under IDEA and (d) continue all services.
8. Purchase educational technology (hardware, software, and connectivity).
9. Provide mental health services and supports.
10. Plan and implement (a) summer and (b) afterschool learning especially for special needs students.
11. Address learning loss among all students, including (a) high-quality assessments, (b) evidence-based activities, (c) provide information and assistance to parents/families on effectively supporting students and (d) tracking attendance and improving student engagement.
12. School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.
13. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including (a) mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, (b) filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and (c) window and door repair and replacement.
14. Develop strategies and implement public health protocols and policies in line with guidance from CDC for reopening and operating school facilities.
15. Other activities necessary to (a) maintain the operation of and continuity of services in the district, (b) including continuing to employ existing staff to the greatest extent practicable and teacher retention costs.

American Rescue Plan (ARP)

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III) entitlement (Fund 282): \$1,351,392

Program Intent:

This emergency funding that will expire in September 2024 is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students; 20% of the funds must be used to address student learning loss. Proposed costs dating back to March 13, 2020, are eligible.

Proposed Uses:

1. Will be used for activities authorized under ESEA, IDEA, and Carl D. Perkins CTE
2. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts with State and local public health departments to improve coordinated responses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

3. Will be used for activities 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.
4. Develop/implement procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts.
5. Training for staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
6. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean facilities.
7. Plan, coordinate, implement activities during long-term closures, including (a) meals to eligible students, (b) technology for online learning, (c) guidance for carrying out requirements under IDEA and (d) continue all services.
8. Purchase educational technology (hardware, software, and connectivity).
9. Provide mental health services and supports.
10. Plan and implement (a) summer and (b) afterschool learning especially for special needs students.
11. Address learning loss among all students, including (a) high-quality assessments, (b) evidence-based activities, (c) provide information and assistance to parents/families on effectively supporting students and (d) tracking attendance and improving student engagement.
12. School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.
13. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including (a) mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, (b) filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and (c) window and door repair and replacement.
14. Develop strategies and implement public health protocols and policies in line with guidance from CDC for reopening and operating school facilities.
15. Other activities necessary to (a) maintain the operation of and continuity of services in the district, (b) including continuing to employ existing staff to the greatest extent practicable.

IDEA-B Formula Grant entitlement (Fund 224): \$100,115

Program Intent:

Provide special education and related services to children with disabilities ages 3– 21.

Proposed Uses:

IDEA-B formula funds will be used only to pay the excess cost of providing special education and related services to children with disabilities and must not be used to pay for all costs directly attributable to the education of a child with a disability.

IDEA-B Preschool Grant entitlement (Fund 225): \$1,085

Program Intent:

Provide special education and related services to children with disabilities ages 3– 5.

Proposed Uses:

In addition to IDEA-B Formula funds, IDEA-B Preschool funds will be used to supplement and increase services beyond the level of State and local funds expended for preschool students ages 3– 5 with disabilities.

Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant (SIG) entitlement (Fund 211.3): \$10,000 + Carryover (approx. \$75,000)

Program Intent:

This grant provides supplemental funds to Title I Served Schools identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement School to address graduation rates less than 67% and the lowest achieving Title I campuses based on the Closing the Gaps domain of the state accountability system.

Proposed Uses:

Will be used to improve efforts to develop campus instructional leaders (principal, assistant principal, teacher leaders) with clear roles and responsibilities, build capacity to recruit, select, assign, induct, and retain a full staff of highly qualified educators, develop compelling and aligned vision, mission, goals, values focused on a safe environment and high expectations, build capacity

to deploy curriculum and assessments aligned to TEKS with a year-long scope and sequence, improve efforts to develop objective-driven daily lesson plans with formative assessments, improve actions and processes around data-driven instruction. Costs associated with addressing or developing areas associated with the above essential actions to include: expenditures related to payroll costs, and funds to support Instructional Continuity efforts due to COVID-19 including: Costs associated with building capacity to deploy curriculum, curricular resources and assessments aligned to TEKS for Instructional Continuity and/or at-home schools, as well as, costs associated with professional development in developing effective virtual learning instruction. Costs associated with providing monitoring and support to teachers, students, and parents and costs associated with technical assistance provided by a Regional Education Service Center.

Title I, 1003 ESF Focused Grant entitlement (Fund 211*): \$167,000

Program Intent:

This emergency funding that will expire in September 2023. This grant program is intended to support the applicant with school-level improvement efforts to directly benefit these Comprehensive Support and Improvement, Targeted Support and Improvement, or Additional Targeted Support and Improvement schools. The Title I, 1003 Effective Schools Framework-Focused Support Grant will be used to support the awarded schools with efforts to strengthen campus systems, build staff capacity, improve school outcomes and continue implementation and/or support of their improvement efforts.

Proposed Uses:

Will be used to supplement costs associated with the ESC-VIP for the awarded campus and feeder pattern campus, instructional materials aligned to TEKS and rigor of state assessments, personnel costs for participation in summer professional development, contracted services for training, and other costs directly associated with summer professional development directly aligned to the ESF – Prioritized Focus Area(s) for the campus, provide funds to retain, recruit, select, assign, and induct a full staff of highly qualified educators, costs associated with the ESC-VIP for the awarded campus and feeder pattern campus, Travel expenses for TEA required events, VIP required events, and district-directed trips to support Effective Schools Framework, & DCSI/Campus Grant Project Contact (to monitor the grant program).

TCLAS – Texas COVID Learning Acceleration Supports: \$TBD

Program Intent:

Provide a set of targeted supports & additional state & federal funding aligned to the Learning Acceleration Framework.

Proposed Uses:

Will be used to supplement instructional supports and costs associated with implementation of HB4545 state requirements (i.e., Tutoring services for students requiring accelerated learning plans).

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Introduction

Heritage Academy Charter Schools intend to apply for ESSER II and ARP, ESSER III in conjunction with other federal grant funding, to include ESSA, IDEA B Formula/Preschool, and School Improvement Grants. The purpose of ESSER II is to prevent, prepare for or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of ESSER III is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address COVID-19 related learning loss for students. The plan that follows is intended to outline Heritage Academy Charter Schools planned health and safety measures for the 2021-2022 school year while ensuring a high-quality educational experience for all students.

Maintaining Health and Safety

To reduce the risk of transmission, Heritage Academy Charter Schools plans the following mitigation strategies for the 2021-2022 school year (per current CDC guidelines):

- Proper handwashing encouraged
- Hand sanitizer available
- Providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) & Resources
- Adjusted classroom seating when appropriate to maximize social distancing
- Targeted cleaning as appropriate (especially high contact/traffic areas)
- Positive cases will be reported to the local health department
- COVID-19 testing available on campus for staff and students
- Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities as identified in the student's Individualized Education Program or Section 504 plan

Ensuring Continuity of Services

Heritage Academy Charter Schools will continue to take appropriate actions to ensure continuity of services to students. These actions will focus on addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. Proposed plans to provide a continuity of services are as follows:

- To provide instructional materials/resources, activities, and outreach to meet the needs of students.
- To provide staff training to accelerate learning
- To provide tutoring program to accelerate learning.
- To provide social and emotional wellness support to students and professional development to staff.
- To provide technology resources, instructional technology programs, and improve connectivity.
- To provide extended summer school sessions & instructional support to accelerate learning.
- Provide additional instructional & professional support staff & teacher retention measures

Opportunity for Public Comment:

During the development of the plan, student data informed input from staff throughout the district. Needs were prioritized based on stakeholder surveys, comprehensive needs assessment, and instructional continuity considerations. The planned use of funds for allowable expenditures was presented to the public through the Board of Trustees Meeting held on Thursday, July 20, 2021. Staff, parent, and student surveys were opened for input from May 27, 2021 through June 15, 2021. All feedback will be considered in revising the plan. Such revisions will occur prior to the final submission of the application of ESSER III funds.

Periodic Review and Revision of the Plan:

During the period in which ESSER III funds are available, Heritage Academy Charter Schools will review and revise the plan at least every six months. These revisions will take into account stakeholder feedback, as well as updated guidance from the Texas Education Agency.

For the Public:

Heritage Academy Charter Schools has taken the following steps to ensure availability of the plan to families and the community:

- This plan is posted on the Heritage Academy Charter Schools website: <https://heritageacademy.net/>
- This plan is available for electronic translation in different languages upon request. Please contact Derrick Armstead to request a translation at darmstead@heritageacademy.net or 210-659-0329.
- A parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may request the plan in an alternative format. Please contact Derrick Armstead to request a translation at darmstead@heritageacademy.net or 210-659-0329.

This summary of federal program funds is meant to provide our school community an opportunity for public comment on any one of the federal grant programs the district intends to apply.

To submit comments, please email Derrick Armstead at darmstead@heritageacademy.net by July 25th, 2021