LEA (local education agency) funds may be used for a wide range of activities to address needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic, including any activity authorized by the ESEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), or Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins CTE).

Specifically, ARP ESSER funds may be used to develop strategies and implement public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on reopening and operating schools to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, as well as:

- coordinating preparedness and response efforts with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19
- training and professional development on sanitizing and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases
- purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the LEA’s facilities
- repairing and improving school facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards
- improving indoor air quality
- addressing the needs of children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth
- developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEAs
- planning for or implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students and providing technology for online learning
- purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including students from low-income families and children with disabilities
- providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools and the hiring of counselors
- planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs
- addressing learning loss
- other activities that are necessary to maintain operation of and continuity of and services, including continuing to employ existing or hiring new LEA and school staff

Possible CTE applications of American Rescue Plan ESSER III funds:

- shop ventilation upgrades
- facility upgrades especially related to hygiene, handwashing, installation of water and/or restroom services in outbuildings to possibly include greenhouses, school farms/barns, land labs, etc.
- technology purchases and upgrades to include having enough technology to create one-to-one experiences for students
- adaptive technology and equipment to better serve disabled and/or minority students
• equipment purchases that result in one-to-one experiences for students related to shop and lab safety equipment (i.e. individual welding helmets, aprons, safety glasses, etc.)
• summer AFNR and/or CTE day camps – bringing students on campus when conditions allow for immersive, hands-on industry and/or lab experiences that were otherwise lost during the last academic year
• state FFAs to develop targeted workshop materials and presentations to address student mental health and support services that would allow for states to charge LEAs for delivery of materials/presentations
• mobile SAE setups to reach underserved populations or students without resources for typical SAE processes