



Green Schoolyard Funding

IMPROVE YOUR GREEN SCHOOLYARD PROJECT WITH ESSER FUNDS

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) grants provide schools emergency relief funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus threat. Schools are matching these funds with green stormwater infrastructure grants to create multibenefit green schoolyard spaces.

ESSER-ELIGIBLE GREEN SCHOOLYARD ELEMENTS

According to Green Schoolyards America, “These funds present an opportunity to use outdoor learning to lower the risk of virus transmission while enhancing children’s school experience and well-being.” ESSER funds have been designed to be flexible in order to effectively meet the unique needs of schools and districts. Green schoolyard elements that ESSER might fund include:

Work Stations



Teacher Boards



Stepping Stones



Seating



Raised Beds



Picnic Tables



Play Equipment



Game Tables

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must provide a project timeline, budget, and description of how the program will meet State ESSER goals. For those applying for ARP ESSER funding, applicants must also include a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan as well as a plan to address loss of learning. Every state uses their own application system so please check with your [state educational agency](#) for details.

APPLICATION + FUNDING TIMELINE

Most applications for funding are due as soon as possible, but no later than June 20th, 2023 for ESSER II funds and June 30th, 2024 for ARP ESSER funds. State agencies must award local educational agencies funding within one year of receiving their State’s ESSER allocation.

Please check with your [state educational agency](#) for details on deadlines and how to apply.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Answers to frequently asked questions are available online at <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/05/ESSER-Fund-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf>.

GETTING THE MOST GOOD OUT OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE.