

Connecticut Department of Education Assurances for the ARP ESSER Funding Application

I. ARP ESSER ASSURANCES

1. In accepting the funds made available under this GAN, the Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) assures it will submit a plan to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) that contains such information as CSDE may reasonably require, including all information required by the U.S. Department of Education's {ED} Interim Final Requirements on ARP ESSER. The Educator Preparation Provider will submit the plan by the date established by CSDE.

2. I acknowledge and agree that the failure to comply with all Assurances and Certifications in this application, all relevant provisions and requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act, 2021, Pub. L. 117-2), or any other applicable law or regulation may result in liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. 5 3729, et seq.;

OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and 18 USC§ 1001, as appropriate.

3. All ARP ESSER funds will be used for activities allowable under Section 2001(d) and (e), ARP Act 2021. No funds shall be used: to subsidize or offset executive salaries and benefits of individuals who are not employees of our district; for expenditures related to state or local teacher or faculty unions or associations.

4. EPP shall provide reports as may be required by the CSDE which could include but are not limited to: the methodology we use(d) to provide services or assistance to students and staff in public schools; the uses of funds (by our district and/or other entities) and demonstration of their compliance Section 2001(e), such as any use of funds addressing the digital divide, including securing access to home-based connectivity and remote-use devices, related issues in supporting remote learning for all students, including disadvantaged populations.

5. All requests for payment shall be based upon allowable purposes and made in accordance with cash management principles.

6. Records pertaining to the ARP ESSER award under 2 C.F.R. 5 200.334 and 34 C.F.R. 5 76.730, including financial records related to use of grant funds, will be retained separately from other grant funds, including funds an EPP receives under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act {CARES Act} and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA Act). Our district shall cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such ARP ESSER funds by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals available for interview and examination, upon the request of (i) the United States Department of Education and/or its Inspector General; or (ii) any other federal agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority.

7. EPP will comply with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) requirements in Subpart D• Post Federal Award Requirements (2 CFR §§200.300-345) and Subpart E-Cost Principles (2 CFR 55200.400-475), which states

that (ARP ESSER) funds must be used for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the American Rescue Plan Act.

8. EPP will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR} 34 CFR parts 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement} in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.

9. The EPP will comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; merit systems; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; flood hazards; historic preservation; protection of human subjects; animal welfare; lead-based paint; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders and regulations.

10. With respect to the certification regarding lobbying in Department Form 80-0013, no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program; the SEA will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," when required (34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix B); and the SEA will require the full certification, as set forth in 34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix A, in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers.

11. Control of funds provided to the EPP, and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency and that a public agency will administer those funds and property.

12. The EPP will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, Federal funds.

II. Special Assurance on Continued Payments

Select one:

To the greatest extent practicable, we have continued to pay our employees and contractors during this period of any disruptions or closures related to coronavirus.

We have NOT been able to continue payments to our employees and contractors during this period of any disruptions or closures related to coronavirus. The reasons include:

III. Special Reporting Assistance for Grants in Excess of \$150,000

For allocations more than \$150,000, the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) hereby assures the State Educational Agency (SEA) that as a condition of receiving more than \$150,000, it will report to CSDE on such forms and in such manner as required:

- a. the total amount of funds received from U.S. Department of Education;
- b. the amount spent or obligated for each project or activity supported with CRRSA Act funds;
- c. a list of projects supported with CRRSA Act funds (including name, description, and estimated number of jobs created or retained); and
- d. information on subcontracts and subgrants.

IV. GEPA Section 442 Assurances

The Educator Preparation Program (EPP) hereby assures the State Educational Agency (SEA) that the EPP follows all regulations applicable for CSDE, including those outlined below.

1. Each program will be administered in accordance with applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications;
2. Control of funds and property acquired using program funds will be maintained and administered by the appropriate public agency;
3. Fiscal control and fund accounting procedures will be used to ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, federal funds;
4. The EPP will make reports to the state agency or board and to the Secretary as may be needed for the state agency or board and the Secretary to perform their duties under each program, and each EPP will maintain records (as required in Section 443) and provide access to those records as the state board or agency Secretary deems necessary to carry out their responsibilities;
5. Facilities constructed under any program will be consistent with overall state construction plans and standards and with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in order to ensure that the facilities are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities;
6. The EPP has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating information and research regarding the programs and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices to teachers and administrators participating in each program; and
7. None of the funds expended under any applicable program will be used to acquire equipment if such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees.

V. GEPA Section 427, Equity for Students, Teachers and Other Program Beneficiaries

U.S. Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Section 427 Requirement

Section 427 of GEPA requires each applicant for funds to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age.

For GEPA Section 427 documentation, see the following:

U.S. Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) - Section 427

Provide examples of how your EPP will address the Section 427 requirement:

I, the Dean or Director, do hereby certify that the EPP acknowledges and will abide by the assurances indicated above.