

ESSER funding for schools: Five principles to guide district spending decisions

1. Commit to a multi-year spending plan

- a. Avoid adding new recurring costs to avert disruptive fiscal cliff.
- b. Maintain a long-term financial forecast.

2. Seek targeted investments to increase learning time for students who need it most

3. Honor the promise to taxpayers to focus on students and relief

- a. Compute the per-student costs or cost per extra student hour, to ensure spending is reasonable.
- b. Find ways to measure effects on students and ensure success.
- c. Be nimble and adjust plans as needed

4. Be transparent and ensure broad participation in spending decisions

- a. Engage parents, communities and especially boards on spending choices.
- b. Have principals gauge whether investments match need of their students with feasibility for success.
- c. Apply proper procurement protocols. Publicly share all investments, providers and intended benefits.

5. Consider how equitably funds are applied across schools

- a. Compute \$/student impacts on each school.

