

During the 2020-21 and 21-22 school years, Boulder Valley School District received multiple federal grants and awards that were authorized by the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act) and ARP (the American Rescue Plan). This funding was administered by the Colorado Department of Education. Support to BVSD included awards based on student headcounts, in which BVSD received a proportional share of statewide funding, as well as competitive grants. In all cases, BVSD had to apply for these funds, providing a plan for spending that is consistent with the purposes of the legislation (i.e. general or specific responses to conditions in schools created by the Coronavirus pandemic), and the district is accountable to the state and federal government for both spending and outcomes. Due to the magnitude of this funding, and the many uncertainties with the pandemic, some of these grants can be spent in 2022-23 and 2023-24.

These additional federal resources have been, and will continue to be, incredibly important to BVSD, allowing for health and safety responses to the pandemic as well as addressing the learning loss experienced by some students. Without these resources, drastic measures would have been required to fund the expenditures needed to bring students back to school safely, and continue the teaching and learning that happens each and every day in BVSD.

This is the funding that BVSD has received, in roughly chronological order:

- [Coronavirus Relief Fund](#) (CRF) BVSD allocated these funds entirely towards teacher salaries. This enabled BVSD to maintain instruction during the pandemic without layoffs or furloughs. \$14.9 million
- [ESSER I Fund](#) BVSD received this first ESSER (Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund) grant to support remote learning technology - monitors, chromebooks for students and teachers, webcams for teachers, - everything needed for the REVA (Remote Education Video Audio) system which was used for [HyFlex instruction](#) (remoted, blended). \$1.5 million
- [Safe Schools Reopening Grant](#) BVSD applied for and received this grant to purchase allocated for HVAC, air purification, filters, safety equipment, and cleaning supplies to help reopen schools. \$1.5 million.
- [Connecting Colorado Grant](#) BVSD applied for funding to expand ConnectME home internet access for students with Livewire antennas and hotspots in neighborhoods. \$1.3 million
- [ESSER II Fund](#) The district applied this funding toward additional personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, CO2 sensors, online learning programs, unemployment claims, extra nurses, and upgrades to HVAC systems. \$6.2 million
- [ESSER Special Education Grant](#) BVSD will use this grant to focus on COVID academic catch-up and behavioral support for students with IEPs. \$1.6 million
- [ESSER III Fund](#) The district is allocating ESSER III toward differentiated funding for high support schools, with an emphasis on academic catch-up supports, as well the addition of BU Link for additional online learning opportunities, COVID testing, and nurses. For details on the ESSER III funding plan, link [here](#). \$14 million.
- [ARP Homeless Children and Youth Grant](#) BVSD will use these funds to hire additional staff for outreach and services to homeless students. (Following the Marshall Fire, BVSD has +1,300 homeless students) \$80,000

Local nonpublic schools meeting specific criteria were eligible for services from local public school districts under ESSER I. BVSD publicized this, consulted with those interested, and did provide such services in 2020-21.

Following ESSER I, private schools have been able to apply directly to the state for COVID relief funding under the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) grant and [Emergency Aid to Nonpublic Schools](#).