

October 27, 2021



COVID Relief Funds

An Overview for New District Staff

This webinar is being recorded



Agenda

- Introduction
 - Acronyms
 - Types of Funding Sources
- Allowable Activities
- District Requirements
- Resources & Support
 - Upcoming Webinars
 - Resources
 - Questions and Contact Us



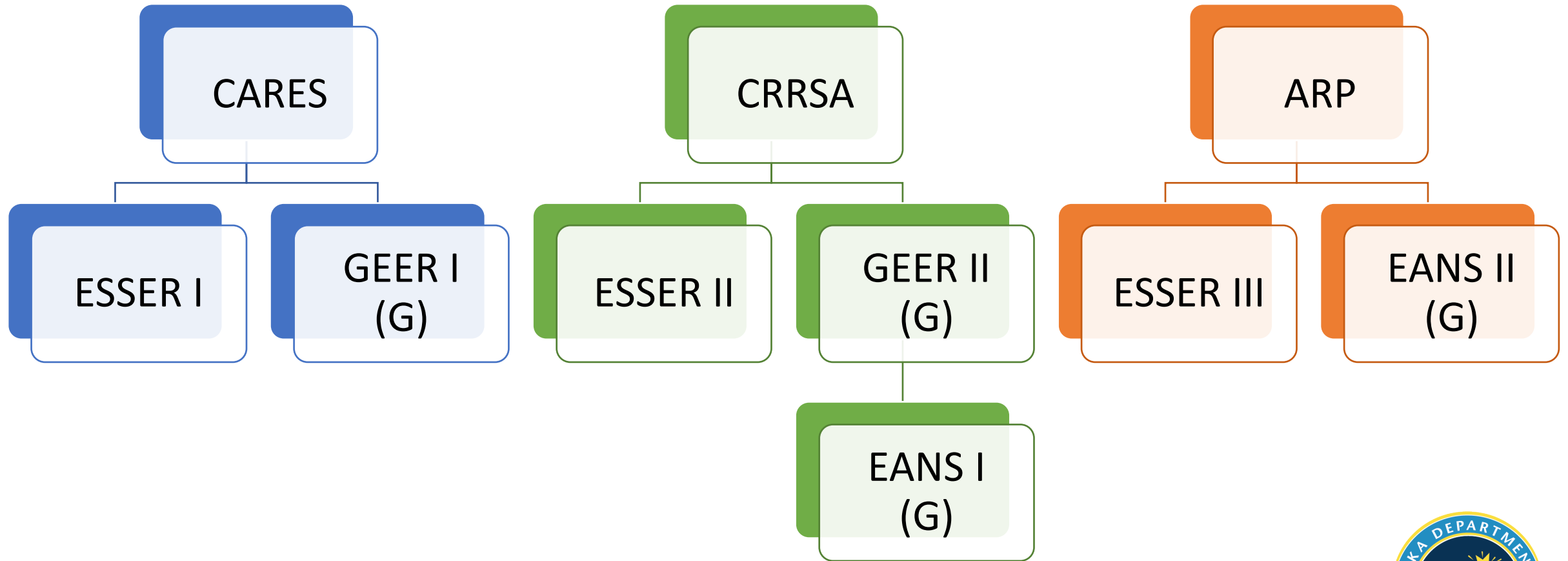
Introduction to COVID Relief Funds

- Acronyms
- Funding Sources/Legislation

COVID Relief Funding Acronyms

- ARP- American Rescue Plan Act
- CARES- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
- CRRSA- Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act
- EANS- Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools
 - Money that flows through DEED for private schools to prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus pandemic.
- ESSER- Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund
 - Money that flows through DEED for public school districts to prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus pandemic.
 - Includes HCY- Homeless Children & Youth Funds
- GEER- Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund
 - Money that flows through the Governor's office for public school districts, intuitions of higher education, and other education related entities to prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus pandemic

3 Funding Sources



3 Funding Sources

CARES

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
- March 2020
- Expires September 30, 2022
- ESSER I & GEER I
- Districts must provide equitable services to private schools

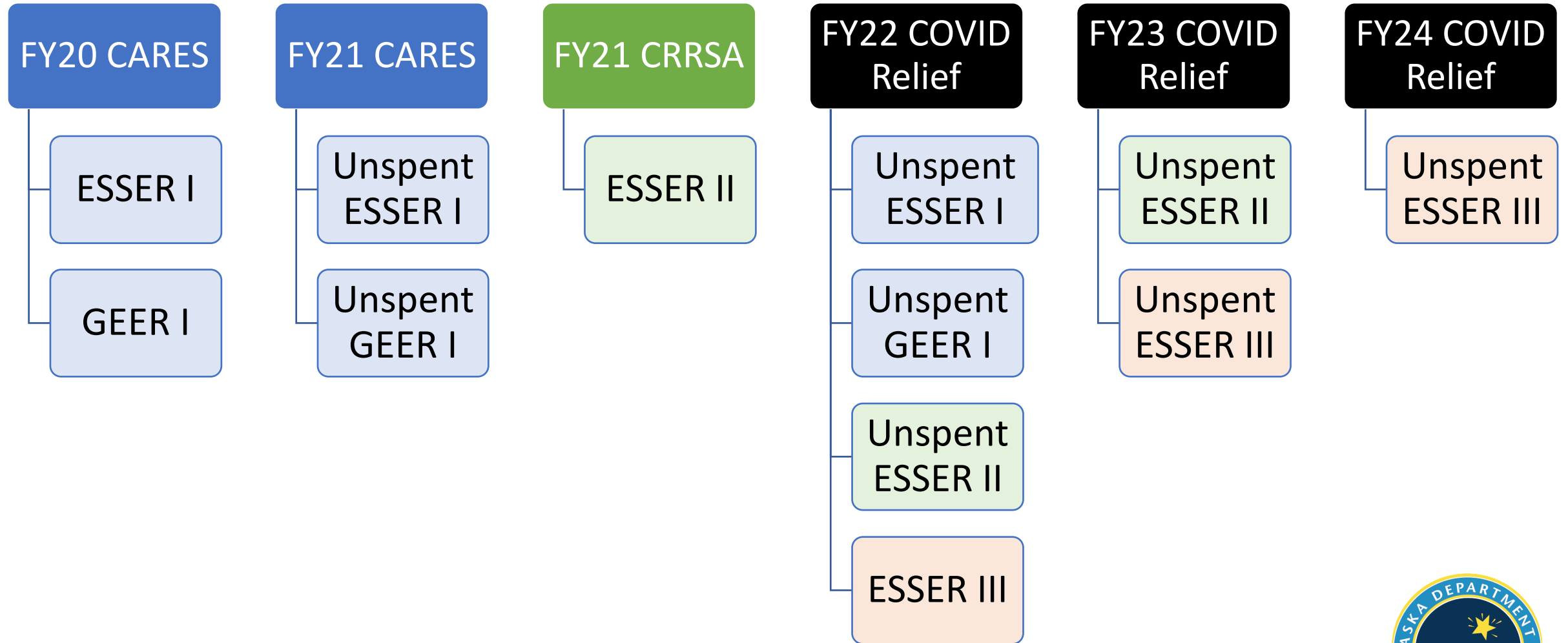
CRRSA

- Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act
- December 2020
- Expires September 30, 2023
- ESSER II

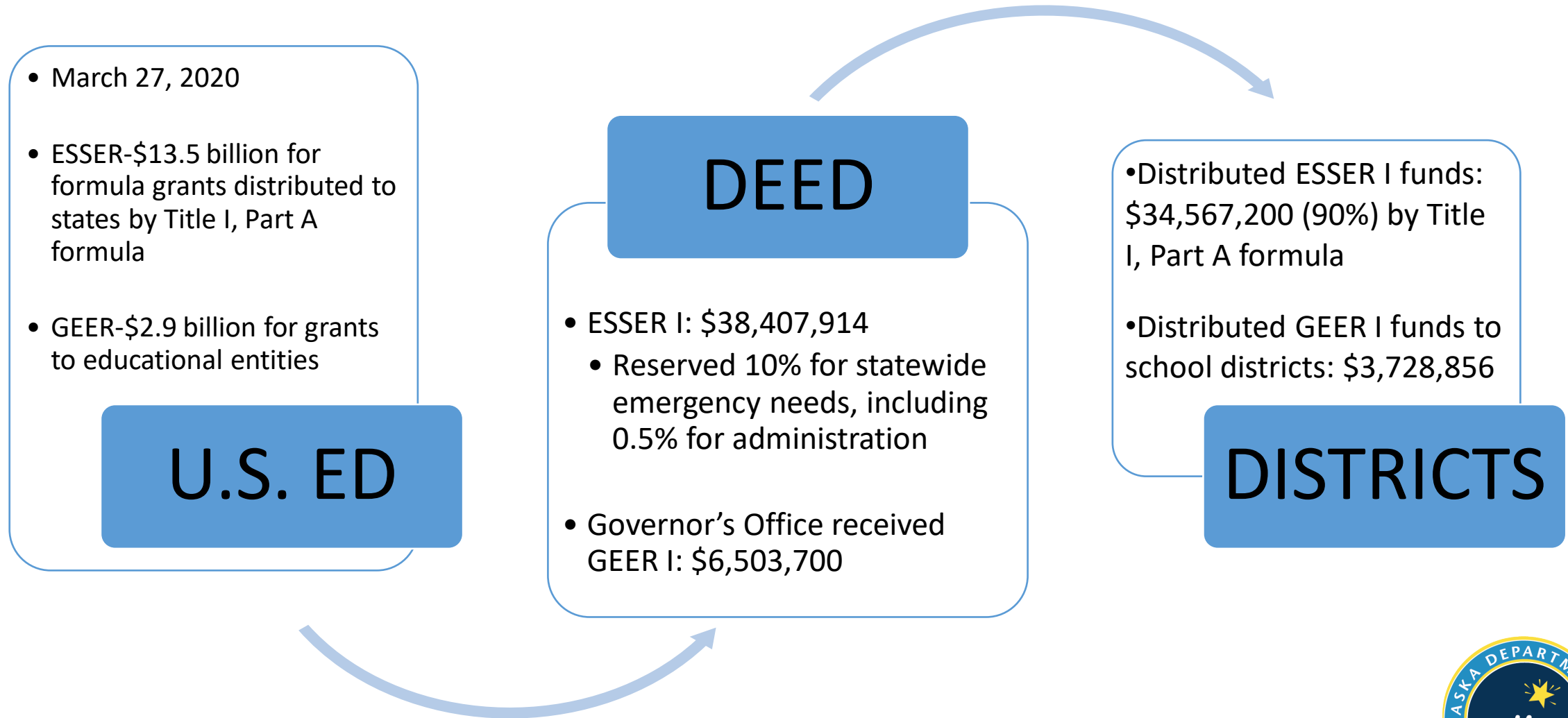
ARP

- American Rescue Plan Act
- March 2021
- Expires September 30, 2024
- ESSER III
- Comes with specific mandates for states and districts

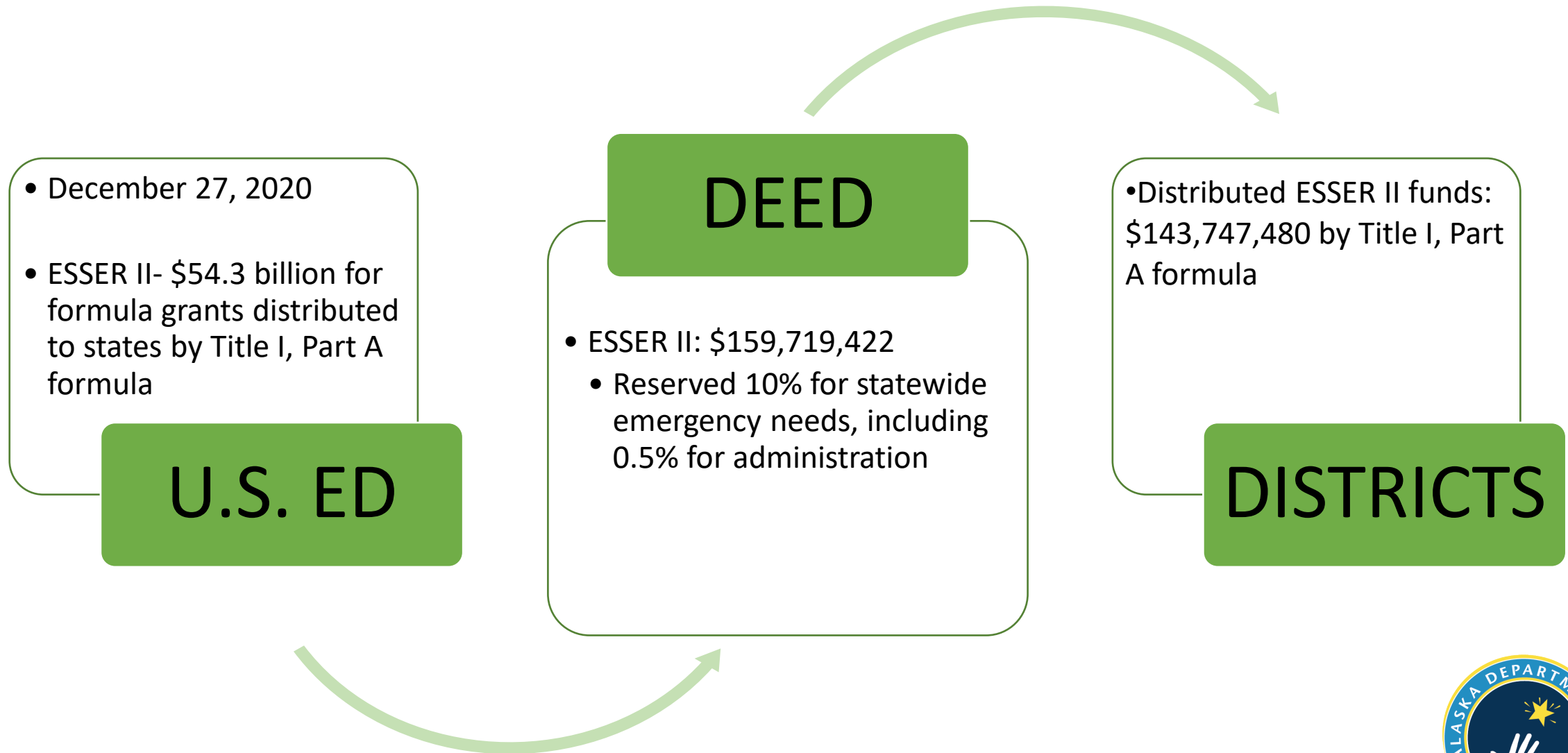
Applications for Funds



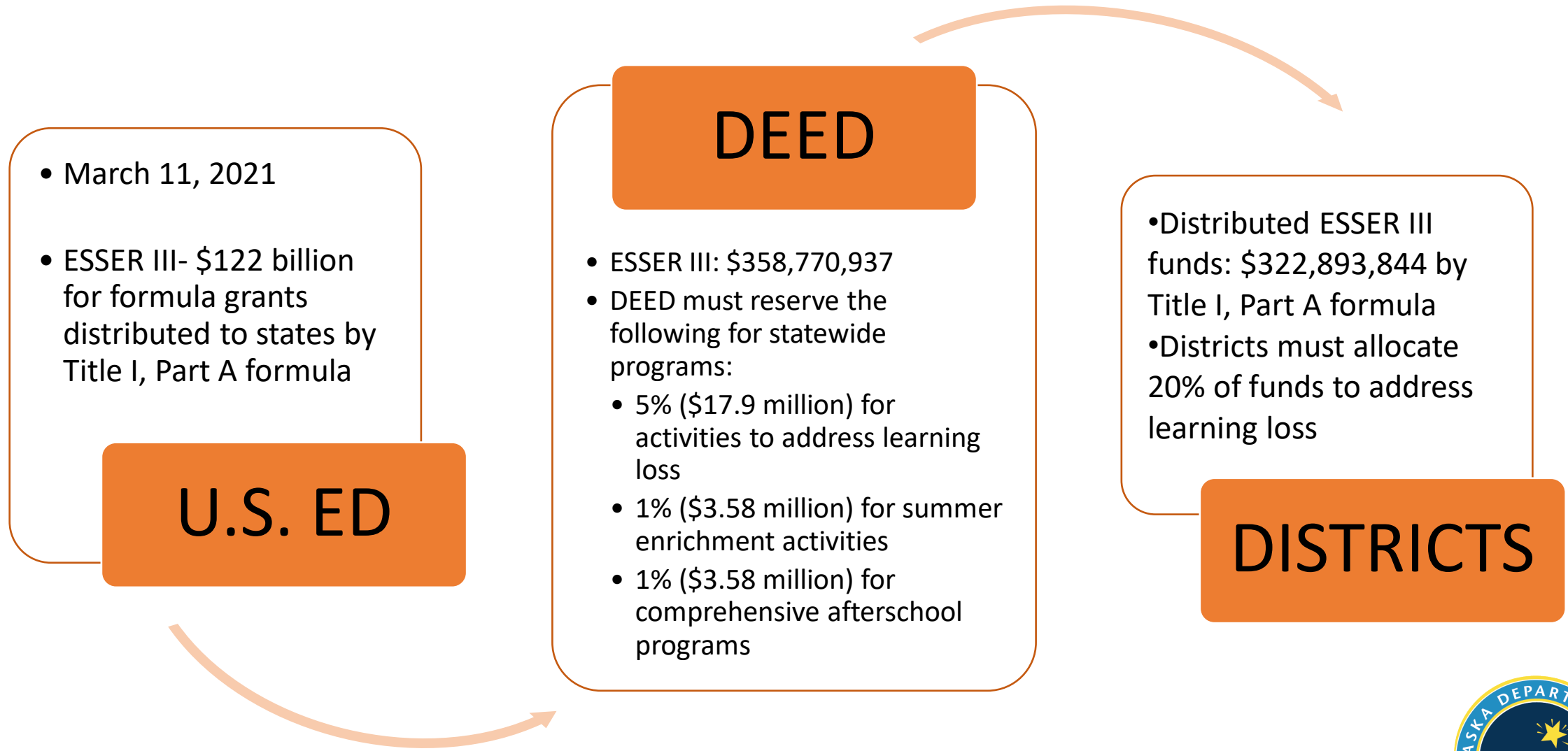
CARES Act Overview



CRRSA Act Overview



ARP Act Overview



Overview of Allowable Activities

- Purpose of Funds
- Allowable Uses of Funds

Purpose of Funds

- The CARES, CRRSA, and ARP Acts provide vital support to SEAs, LEAs, and schools as they work to reopen schools safely, maximize in-person instructional time, and address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, educators, and families.
- Allowable uses of funds may be used to implement actionable strategies to meet the urgent needs of students and educators as LEAs and schools work to return to and safely sustain in-person instruction, address the educational inequities that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and address students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs.

Purpose Continued

- Consider how COVID Relief Funds can be used to address inequities, including focusing supports and services on
 - students from low-income families,
 - students of color,
 - students with disabilities,
 - English learners,
 - students experiencing homelessness,
 - children and youth in foster care,
 - migratory students,
 - children who are incarcerated,
 - and other underserved students who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Allowability

1. Prepare for or Respond to COVID-19?

- Is the use of funds intended to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students?

2. Allowable Activity?

- Does the use of funds fall under one of the authorized uses of ESSER or GEER funds?

3. Reasonable & Necessary?

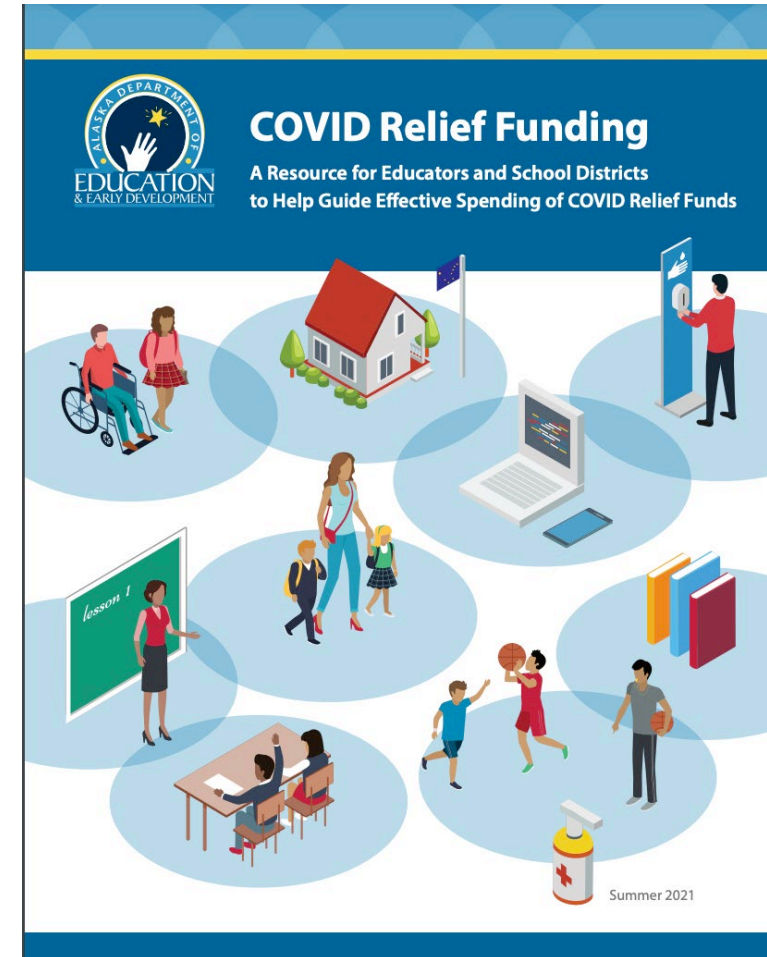
- Is the use of funds permissible under the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Part 200)?

Broad Allowable Activity Categories

Supporting other Federal Programs	Coordinated Responses	Supporting Principals	Supporting Special Populations
Preparedness & Response	Professional Development	Supplies	Preparing for Closures
Education Technology	Mental Health	Summer & Afterschool Programs	Learning Loss
Facility Repairs	Air Quality	Continuity of Services	Health & Safety Protocols

Broad Allowable Activity Categories

- DEED developed a resource that provides a more in-depth analysis of the 16 allowable activities, including links to resources and funding ideas.



Overview of District Requirements

- Data/Reporting Requirements
- ARP Act Requirements

District Reporting Requirements

- Districts will be required to report the following, as related to the COVID Relief Funds:
 - School mode of instruction/operation for each month of the year
 - John Jones will be sending out more information next week regarding this data collection
 - ARP Act- Maintenance of Equity (MOEquity) for federal fiscal years 2022 and 2023 and other reporting as the Secretary may require
 - All but 17 districts are automatically exempt from MOEquity requirements.
 - Other reports may be requested in the future
 - Anticipate reports on how the district spent the 20% Learning Loss set aside for ARP funds
 - Anticipate reports on how the district targeted funds to special populations

District Requirements ARP Act

- The ARP Act added specific requirements for districts:
 - Create and update a written mitigation plan and post it on their website
 - Seek public comment from stakeholder groups on the planning and use of ARP funds
 - Create a public document outlining the use of ARP funds, called a district ARP plan
 - Reserve at least 20% of their ESSER III funds to address learning loss
 - Take into consideration and address the needs of underserved student subgroups
 - Comply with Maintenance of Equity (MOEquity) report requests

District Mitigation Plans

- Districts will:
 - Create a written mitigation plan and post it on their website by June 23, 2021
 - DEED collects a listing and [publishes it here](#).
 - DEED pulls this information from the program details page of your ARP ESSER III grant in the FY2022 COVID Relief Application in GMS. If you see errors, please email DEED.CARES@Alaska.gov
 - Review, update, and revise the plan periodically, but no less than every 6 months
- DHSS is available to assist with questions you may have about CDC requirements
 - They have a [Start Strong website](#) that provides a broad range of resources
 - Email them at schoolhealthandsafety@alaska.gov

District ARP Plans

- Districts will:
 - Create a public document outlining the use of ARP funds, called a district ARP plan by August 23, 2021
 - This is the program details page of the district's ARP ESSER III grant in the FY2022 COVID Relief Application in GMS. Completing these pages satisfies the federal requirement.
 - Seek public comment from stakeholder groups on the planning and use of ARP funds.
 - Explain how the district will reserve 20% of ARP ESSER III funds to address learning loss.
 - Explain how the district will take into consideration and address the needs of underserved student subgroups.

Who are stakeholders

- Students
- Families
- Tribes and Native Organizations
- Civil rights organizations
- School and district administrators
- Charter school leaders
- Teachers, school staff, and their unions
- Stakeholders representing the interests of:
 - Children with disabilities
 - English learners
 - Children experiencing homelessness
 - Children and youth in foster care
 - Migratory students
 - Children who are incarcerated
 - Other underserved students

Milestones



Resources & Support

Upcoming Webinars & Meetings

Wednesday,
November 3, 2021

11:00-11:45 am

An advanced discussion
about COVID Relief Funds

Wednesday,
November 10, 2021

11:00-11:30 am

Informal office hours & a
chance to network with
other districts

Wednesday,
December 1, 2021

11:00-11:30 am

COVID Coffee Break- Drop in
with questions & technical
assistance needs

Breakout rooms available

Networking &
troubleshooting with other
districts available

Resources: DEED

Information

- [DEED's COVID-19 Back to School Information Page](#)
- [DEED's COVID Education Landing Page](#)
- [DEED's ARP State Plan Page](#)
- [DHSS's Start Strong Page](#)

GMS

- [GMS Homepage](#)
- [GMS COVID Relief Application Handbook](#)

Funding

- [COVID Relief Funding FAQs](#)
- [COVID Relief Funding: A Resource for Educators and School Districts](#)

Resources: Other

US Department of Education

- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [ARP ESSER Page](#)
- [Maximizing In-person Learning & Effective Practices for Quarantine](#)
- [Federal FAQ Document](#)

CDC

- [School & Child Care Programs Page](#)
- [Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)
- [Toolkit for Student Quarantine](#)

Contact Us



DEED.CARES@Alaska.gov