

**Applicant:** 03 0285 BERGEN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT - Bergen

ARP Non Title I ✓

**Application:** ARP Non Title I - 00-

**Project Period:** 1/1/2022 -

**Cycle:** Original Application

12/31/2022

Needs

Safe  
Return

LEA  
Plan for Use of Funds

## LEA Plan for Use Of Funds

1. The extent to which and how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning; ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

The Bergen County Special Services district has allocated funds for prevention and mitigation strategies through previous ESSER II grant funds.

2. How the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year; ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

As a receiving school district, BCSS offers summer learning and extended school year opportunities in conjunction with local sending districts. No funds from the ARP Act will be used for interventions such as summer learning, summer enrichment, or extended day or year programs beyond those programs presently offered.

3. How the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act; and ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

Bergen County Special Services will provide technology equipment, supports, and instruction to students to enhance their technology skills, increase independent learning skills, assist them in closing learning gaps through individualized instruction, and ensure that all students have access to state-of-the-art technology. Provision of technology will equip students to thrive in a remote learning environment should the need arise in the future. BCSS will also use funds to offer twice-monthly support groups to parents/caregivers beginning in January 2022 and running throughout SY2022-23. This initiative will provide support, psycho-education, referrals, and parent coaching, in addition to helping parents/caregivers re-establish connections with school staff and other families. The support groups will enhance parent/caregiver skills in supporting student achievement.

4. How the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with

disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students. Under this requirement, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders and give the public an opportunity to provide input in the development of its plan. Specifically, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with students; families; school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.

([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

Technology equipment, supports, and individualized learning programs that will be implemented to address academic impact of lost instructional time are offered to all students throughout the district, and Parent/Caregiver support groups are available to all families/caregivers of students enrolled in BCSS school programs. The Bergen County Special Services School District has engaged with stakeholders through school district website postings, Board of Education public meetings, discussions with stakeholders including parents, civil rights representatives, disability rights representatives, and our district Homeless Liaisons as well as the Region 1 McKinney-Vento Director. The district has directed personnel to view the ARP plans that have been posted on the district website, and has encouraged meaningful dialogue regarding implementation of academic and mental health initiatives. Stakeholders have the ability to respond to, and offer critiques of, district plans for the ARP allocation through the district website which offers translation tools for non-English-speaking stakeholders.

**5. Additionally, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following, to the extent present in or served by the LEA: Tribes; civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students. ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)**

The Bergen County Special Services School District has engaged with stakeholders through school district website postings, Board of Education public meetings, and discussions with stakeholders including parents, civil rights representatives, and disability rights representatives. Additionally, stakeholders have the ability to respond to, and offer critiques of, district plans for the ARP allocation through the district website which offers translation tools for non-English-speaking community members.