Revised ARP ESSER & ARP Homeless Liquidation Extension Requests

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Federal Programs and Oversight April 2025





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### Agenda

- ED Guidance
- Revised Liquidation Extension Request Process
- Common Questions
- Closing and Resources

# U.S. Department of Education (ED) Guidance



#### **Recent Changes**

- On March 28, 2025, the United States
   Department of Education (ED) released a <u>letter</u>
   announcing the reconsideration of requests for
   the extension to liquidate all programs funded
   by the CRRSA and ARP Acts.
  - ED modified the liquidation extension period to end as of March 28, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. ET.
  - According to the letter, ED will reconsider extension requests on an individual project-specific basis. ED released additional guidance on April 3, 2025, through this email to clarify the information necessary to reconsider late liquidation requests.



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#### **Revised Submission Process**

The Tennessee Department of Education (department) revised the ARP ESSER (ESSER 3.0) and ARP Homeless (Homeless 1.0, Homeless 2.0, and Systems Navigator) Liquidation Extension Request instruments in ePlan to include the additional information to meet the new requirements set by ED.

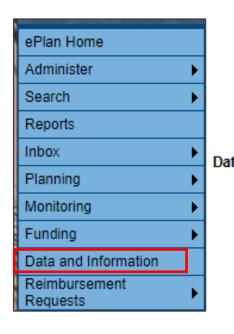


# **Revised Liquidation Extension Request Process**



### **Accessing the Instrument**

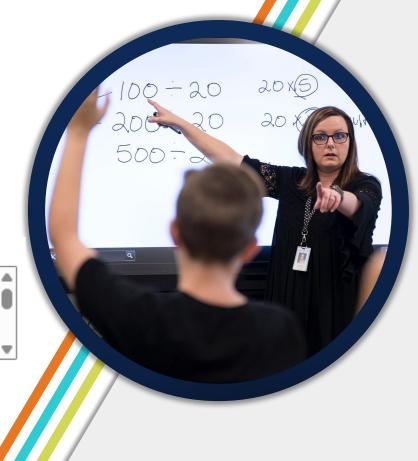
Navigate to ePlan > Data and Information > 2026
 > ARP ESSER Liquidation Extension Request or
 ARP Homeless Liquidation Extension Request



Data and Information:

21st CCLC and LEAPS Desktop Monitoring
Alternative Education Survey

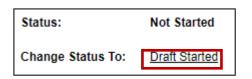
ARP ESSER Liquidation Extension Request
ARP Homeless Liquidation Extension Request
CBO ePlan User Audit



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#### **Completing the Instrument**

- Change status to Draft Started
- Select Cover Page on the Sections page. Complete all fields on the cover page before continuing to the next page. Please ensure the contacts are correct, as they will receive all communication regarding the requests.
- Select the Overview and Attestation page and thoroughly review the two attestations located at the bottom of the page. By checking each statement, the LEA affirms that they have read and understand all requirements and assures the department that the LEA meets the listed conditions.





#### **Revised Funding Section**

 New: Each LEA must check one of the three answers indicating its wish for the department to resubmit the request.

Check this box if the LEA would no longer like to apply for an extension and would prefer to revert funds to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.
* Does the LEA wish for the Tennessee Department of Education to apply for an extension to continue to receive funds on the LEAs behalf?
Yes, please resubmit our original extension request with the additional required information.
Yes, but there are changes outlined below.

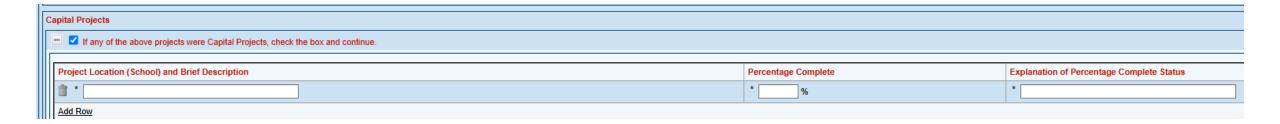
- If the LEA no longer wishes to apply for an extension, then no additional information is needed, and the instrument can be submitted.
  - LEAs with remaining funds of any amount must complete a Release of Funds instrument by going to ePlan>Data and Information>2025>Release of Funds.
- If the LEA chooses to resubmit their original extension request, the original activities may remain but information on the funding page must be updated.
- LEAs that wish to make changes to their extension request may add new activities that meet all of ED's requirements.
  - Additional information and documentation will be required.

#### **Submitting Previously Approved Projects**

- If resubmitting previously approved projects with no changes:
  - LEAs should copy forward information from their FY25 request by choosing Copy Previous Fiscal Year Details.
  - New: Based on new guidance from ED, LEAs must complete all newly required information highlighted in red.
    - Amount liquidated as of March 28, 2025
      - To get this amount, subtract the Net Available Amount showing in the 2025 ARP ESSER or ARP Homeless Reimbursement Requests from the total allocation amount
    - Total amount requested for revised late liquidation
      - o The total amount to be released, if any, will auto-calculate
    - Vendor name
    - Justification of why ED should exercise its discretion to grant the request
    - Brief description of how each project's extension is necessary to mitigate the effects of COVID on American students' education
    - Requested extension deadline
      - While requests may be approved for an extension for a period of up to 14 months (i.e., March 28, 2026), ED
        has encouraged LEAs to ensure this date is realistic and aligns with the services provided.

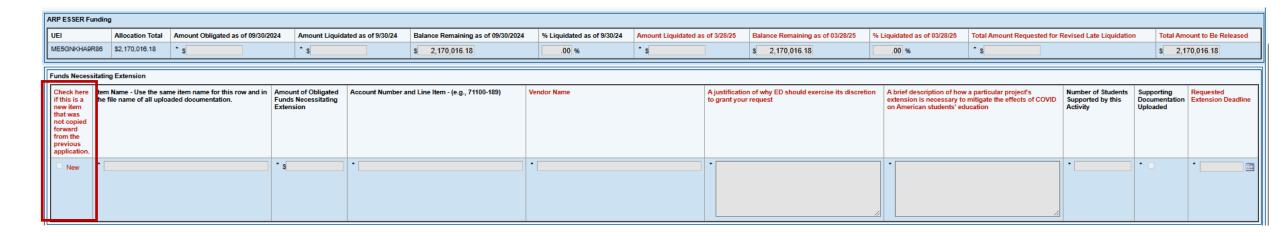
#### **Submitting Previously Approved Projects**

- New: Capital projects now require additional justification including:
  - project location (school) & brief description,
  - percentage complete, and
  - explanation of percentage complete status.
- Please note, this applies to previously approved capital projects as well as newly requested capital projects.



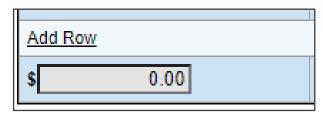
# Making Changes to a Previous Request and/or Adding New Projects

- If needed, LEAs may copy forward information from their FY25 request by choosing Copy Previous Fiscal Year Details before making changes to their previously approved projects.
- LEAs should select New for projects not copied forward from the previous request.
- LEAs must complete all sections of the updated instrument.



#### Making Changes to a Previous Request and/or Adding New Projects

• If the LEA is requesting an extension for additional projects, they may add rows for each project.



- LEAs should thoroughly complete all required sections for each project for which an extension is being requested.
  - ED has stated that approval will be on "an individual project-specific basis."

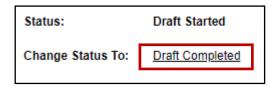


#### **Supporting Documentation**

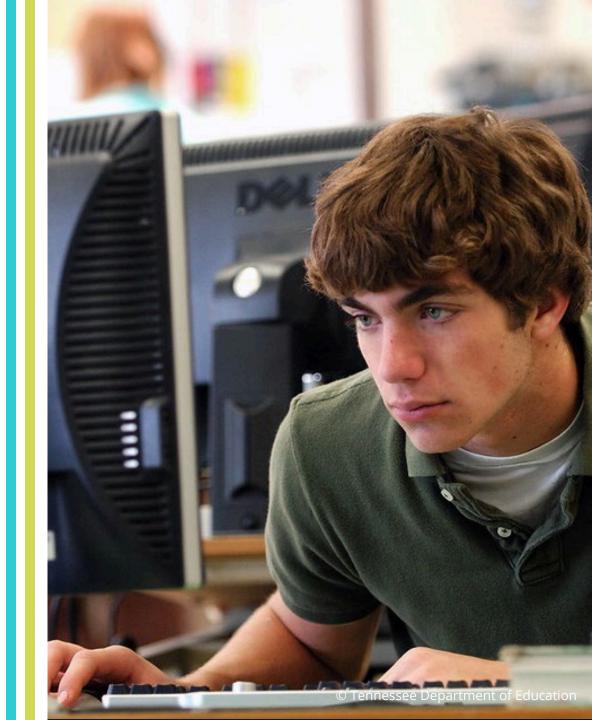
- For each project, check the box under Supporting Documentation Uploaded.
  - At least one supporting document is required for each new row.
  - Projects carried over from the previous fiscal year do not require additional supporting documentation;
     however, LEAs must check the box as this indicates documentation was previously uploaded.
- LEAs requesting extensions for new projects should check the box at the bottom of the page.
- Check this box if the LEA added a new project. Only LEAs that add new projects not in the previous liquidation extension request must upload supporting documentation to show the proper obligation of funds by Sept. 30, 2024.
  - Select the Related Documents section and upload all necessary supporting documentation. The document names should align with the corresponding item names on the Funding page.
    - Supporting documentation must be provided to show proper obligation of funds by Sept. 30, 2024

#### **Submission**

- Ensure all information has been completed and all applicable supporting documentation uploaded.
- Change the status of the instrument to Draft Completed.



 Ensure all appropriate personnel have reviewed and approved the request before submitting to the department as LEA Authorized Representative Approved.





- Can LEAs submit their own requests to ED?
  - No, LEAs that wish to reapply for late liquidation must submit their request through the Data and Information tool in ePlan. The department will then make requests to ED on behalf of the LEA.
- When will LEAs be able to start submitting their request?
  - The updated liquidation extension request tool will reopen in ePlan>Data and Information> 2026>ARP ESSER Liquidation Extension Request or ARP Homeless Liquidation Extension Request on April 15, 2025. LEAs with previously approved liquidation extension requests who wish to reapply must submit their requests to the department no later than May 30, 2025.



- Does approval from the department guarantee approval from ED?
  - No, approval from the department does not guarantee approval from ED. ED has stated that approval will be based on "an individual project-specific basis" at the discretion of the Secretary of Education.
- Are there some projects that are more likely to be approved than others?
  - Yes, ED has indicated that projects directly tied to student achievement, such as tutoring, are preferable. Justification for other projects, such as HVAC upgrades for cleaner air or capital projects, will be considered and should include information signifying how those projects affect student learning and achievement.



- Our LEA has already submitted a request for reimbursement from the department but has not yet received it. Do we have to reapply for an extension? Do we have to resubmit our reimbursement request?
  - If the LEA has not received reimbursement from the department, they should reapply. Once ED has approved the updated extension request, the LEA can resubmit their reimbursement request.
- Our LEA had a reimbursement request accepted and paid by the department. How do we know if the department requested reimbursement from ED for those expenditures?
  - All ARP ESSER reimbursement requests submitted between March 4 and March 28, 2025, have been paid and submitted to ED. Those do not need to reapply. All ARP Homeless requests must resubmit.

- We are concerned that some of our previously approved projects may not get approved when we reapply. Can we change our request?
  - Yes, LEAs reapplying for liquidation extension may change their requests to remove and/or add different projects that were properly obligated by Sept. 30, 2024, and are necessary to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on American students' education. Some requests (i.e., capital projects) may require additional justification for extension.
- We would like to request an extension for a portion of our remaining funds and return the rest. Can we do this, and if so, how?
  - Yes, LEAs can reapply for extensions and only include the projects and amounts they wish to be considered. For the remaining funds, LEAs must then complete the Release of Funds form in ePlan.



# Resources & Closing



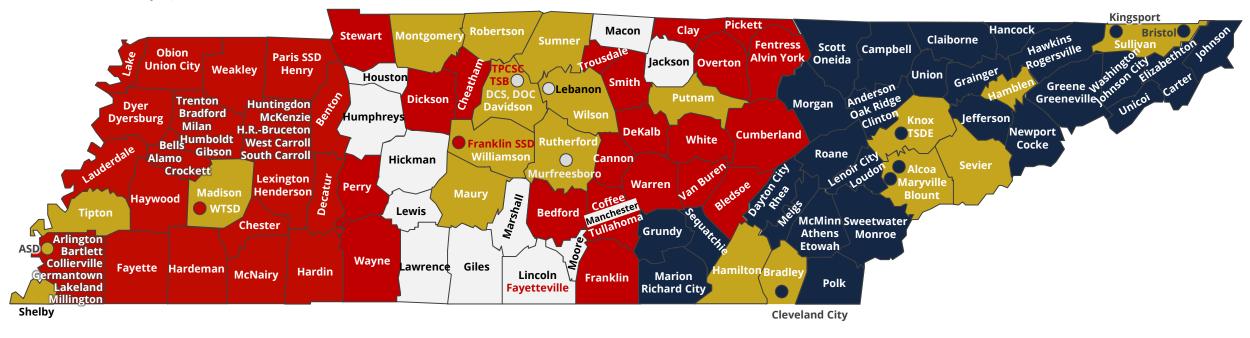
#### Resources

- ePlan > <u>TDOE Resources</u> > Relief Funding > ARP ESSER Liquidation Extension Request 2024-10-15
  - ARP ESSER & ARP Homeless Revised Liquidation Extension FAQ
  - ARP ESSER & ARP Homeless Revised Liquidation Extension Instructions
  - Revised ARP ESSER & ARP Homeless Liquidation Extension Requests
     Webinar Slides
  - ED ESF Funding Letter March 28, 2025
  - ED ESF Funding Letter Email March 28, 2025
  - ED ESF Funding Email April 3, 2025



#### FPO Divisional Coordinator Map for ESSER Funds

(effective July 1, 2024)



#### West

Julia Hudson Julia.Hudson@tn.gov

#### Middle

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Jerri Beth Nave Jerri.Nave@tn.gov

#### **East**

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20 Districts with **Largest Enrollment** 

Jerri Beth Nave Jerri.Nave@tn.gov





#### **Thank You!**

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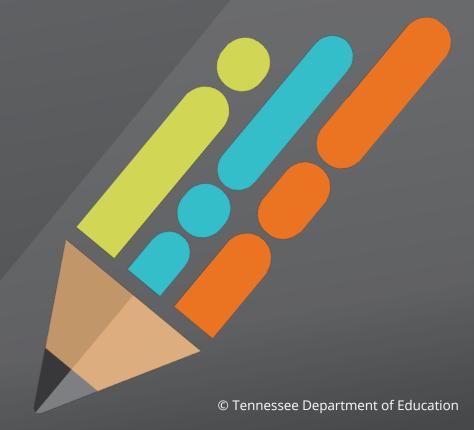
**Education** 

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https://forms.office.com/r/eVtWEAZ9xZ







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