



AB495 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Guide

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The AB495 Frequently Asked Questions Guide is regularly updated. New/updated information is labeled as:



As we provide technical assistance to district and schools regarding AB495 Funds and more information becomes available, NDE staff will add question and answers to this document.

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NOTE: This document will be updated on a regular basis. Please ensure that you are consulting the most current version by referencing the date on the front page as well as the header.

Information in here may change based on updated guidance that we receive from the federal government or the Governor’s Finance Office

Updates to this FAQ will be posted on the NDE website under the “[Federal Relief Funding for K-12 Education](#)” and the “[Grant Information](#)” pages

AB495 Notice of Funding Opportunity

#	Question	Answer
1	Where is the AB495 Notice of Funding Opportunity located?	The AB495 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is posted on the NDE website under the " Federal Relief Funding for K-12 Education " and the " Grant Information " pages. We encourage LEAs and eligible schools to utilize NOFO in the ePAGE application (FY 2023: AB495 American Rescue Plan).

Award Period

#	Question	Answer
2	Will NDE consider extending the August 05, 2022 deadline for the submission of their AB495 grant proposal to allow LEAs additional time to complete? If so, how will this affect the review and approval timeline?	<p>Yes. NDE has extended the deadline for submission of the AB495 grant proposals. The new deadline for submission is August 26, 2022. Please see revised timeline below.</p> <p>August 26: (11:59 PM): Deadline for AB495 competitive grant application to NDE via ePAGE.</p> <p>September 19: Preliminary awards released by NDE.</p> <p>September 28: Budget revisions from districts due to NDE.</p> <p>October 7: Final Awards announced.</p>
3	Can NDE move the grant award period back to July 1, 2022, to allow expenditures to be eligible for reimbursement from July 1, 2022, once we have a fully executed subaward?	No. Unfortunately NDE cannot adjust the grant award period to go back to July 1, 2022. The Governor's Finance Office (GFO) has stated that the funding period for all subawards resulting from this competitive application process will begin on the date that the subrecipient has a fully executed subaward; as such, any costs incurred prior to the date that the subaward has been fully executed would require funding from an alternative funding source.
4	Are prior expenditures that occurred in FY 2022 allowed in our AB495 grant proposal?	No. The Governor's Finance Office has decided that the funding period for all subawards resulting from this <i>competitive</i> application process will begin on the date that the subrecipient has a fully executed subaward; as such, any costs incurred prior to the date that the subaward has been fully executed would require funding from an alternative funding source.
5	If an LEA entered into a contract(s) that started on the first day	No. As stated in the answer to question #4, the Governor's Finance Office has decided the funding period for all subawards

#	Question	Answer
	of school, will this contract(s) be eligible for reimbursement if included in the proposal even though the contract(s) would have been executed and started prior to the subaward being signed?	resulting from this <i>competitive</i> application process will begin on the date that the subrecipient has a fully executed subaward; as such, any costs incurred prior to the date that the subaward has been fully executed would require funding from an alternative funding source.
6	If LEAs have included activities in their grant proposals through Dec. 2026, which are later determined to be disallowed by an auditor or external entity, will NDE reimburse these already expended funds or will the districts be required to repay?	NDE is currently working with the Attorney General's office and Deputy General Attorney's office to ensure that the way in which we implement and administer these federal funds are in alignment with federal and state laws and requirements. If your team is being advised by your federal education legal consultants, please ask the consultants to put the LEA inquiry, their response and rationale in writing to NDE, so that NDE can share with our federal education legal consultants for consideration as well.

Budget Detail

#	Question	Answer
7	Should budget expenditures be identified by fiscal years? Can we submit a multi-year plan?	Identifying fiscal years in a multi-year plan will assist reviewers in having a better understanding of when strategies and projects are to be implemented and items expended for each of the fiscal years. Apportioning budget expenditures by fiscal years in ePAGE budget narrative section is encouraged but not required.
8	Is AB495 funding eligible for financial incentives for staff retention?	The intent of the AB495 legislation is to augment and provide direct evidence-based services and supports to address learning loss. Services, strategies, and activities that directly impact students and accelerate learning will be prioritized. A strong rationale will need to be provided for how financial incentives for staff retention will address the impact of learning loss.
9	Does the AB495 Metatag for learning loss which reads "Conducting other	This focus area, along with the other six metatags, accompanied with a justification of how these positions are reasonable and necessary to address learning loss, can be used for staff positions. As a reminder, the intent of the AB495 legislation is to augment

	activities necessary to maintain the operation and continuity of services" mean that funding for staff positions would be aligned to this focus area?	and provide direct evidence-based services and supports to address learning loss. Services, strategies, and activities that directly impact students and accelerate learning will be prioritized.
10	Does the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) contain a supplement not supplant clause?	The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) does not have a supplement not supplant (SNS) provision that prohibits supplanting.

District Sponsored Charter Schools

#	Question	Answer
11	Should LEAs include Title I served district sponsored charter schools in their application?	<p>District sponsored charter schools that are Title I served would apply through SPCSA.</p> <p>Title I served charter schools are identified as Title I but are not receiving Title I funds. Title I district sponsored charter schools will have an opportunity to apply under the SPCSA under their funding scheduled to be released in the fall.</p>
12	How should LEAs consider non-Title I district and Title I not-served sponsored charter schools in their application?	<p>It is at the discretion of the LEAs whether to include the non-Title I and Title I not-served district sponsored charter schools in their application.</p> <p>However, LEAs are encouraged to include these charter schools in the process of developing their project proposals.</p>
13	If a District chooses to include a Charter school in their application, is the amount of funding at the discretion of the LEA?	Yes, the amount of funding the LEAs include for the non-Title I served charter schools is left to the LEA's discretion.


Evidence-Based Interventions

#	Question	Answer
14	In the Notice of Funding Opportunity (Appendix C) lists strong, moderate, promising ESSA evidence-based tier levels. Can the 4th tier (demonstrates a rationale) still be used?	Yes, all 4 evidence-based ESSA tier levels can be used.

Federal Relief Funds Table



#	Question	Answer
15	What is the purpose of the Current Federal Relief Funds table? Is the data provided in this table going to impact our request?	The purpose of the table is to assist the NDE and Governor's Finance Office with reporting requirements. The information provided is not going to impact your request or be considered in any way in NDE's evaluation of the LEAs' proposals. LEAs will not be penalized for the information provided on this table.
16	In the Current Federal Relief Funds table, is the Competitive ARP ESSER Evidence-Based Summer Enrichment and After-School Programs Grant application a part of the AB495 grant?	No. The \$20,000,000 Competitive ARP ESSER Evidence-Based Summer Enrichment and After-School Programs Grant is a separate grant tentatively scheduled to be released in late August of 2022.

Grant Narrative

#	Question	Answer
17	In the AB495 ARP Narrative section, what margin sizes should we use?	It is recommended that margins be aligned to Microsoft’s margin settings of Normal (1” on all sides) or Moderate (1” on the top and the bottom and .75” on the left and right).
	What happens if, when trying to upload an Excel document into one of the narrative sections, the 12 point font in the Excel spreadsheet converts to a smaller size? 	It is understood that when uploading Excel documents that it is common that font sizes may change. Thus, this is acceptable.
18	What level of detail is needed for the grant narrative in question 1, the executive summary of prior federal relief funding? Should there be information for every line-item, or should broad categories be used?	For grant narrative question 1, LEAs are expected to provide a brief overview of how previous federal relief funds were used to meet district and school needs. The identification of broad categories and major strategies/interventions are appropriate provided they align with the LEA’s needs assessment(s) and the AB495 rubric. The answers should also provide a clear context for how the LEA’s funding requests across the different federal relief funds are aligned and coherent.
19	For the needs assessment, can we use the previous needs assessment that we used for ESSER?	Yes. We are aware that each LEA has their own unique needs and want to ensure that each of their specific needs are being addressed. There is a list in the NOFO of the comprehensive needs assessments that NDE will consider. The expectation is that LEAs are regularly updating their needs assessments, and they submit their most recent versions that provides the current needs of their students, schools, and families.

Period of Performance

#	Question	Answer
20	The NOFO states that all funding must be "obligated by Dec 2024 and expended by Dec 2026". Is this inclusive of all	The United States Department of the Treasury has published a document for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Guidance on Recipient Compliance and Reporting Responsibilities . Page 6 (six) of that document speaks to the Eligible Costs Timeframe and states that the funding period “ends on December 31, 2024, as long as the award funds for the obligations incurred by December 31, 2024

#	Question	Answer
	<p>funding categories and line items?</p> <p>Please explain the obligation by 2024 and expended in 2026.</p>	<p>are expended by December 31, 2026.”</p> <p>For the purposes of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act’s Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) which are distributed to Nevada school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024; the ARP SLFRF funds for school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted will be considered “obligated” when the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has a fully executed subgrant agreement in place with the subrecipient. • Funding must be expended by December 31, 2026; expended means that invoices, goods and services must be received on or before that date.
<p>21</p>	<p>If pre-paid purchases are made for allocable products and services (i.e. multi-year licenses, vendor services, supplies) that were obligated by December 31, 2024, will NDE reimburse multi-year activities that go beyond the December 31, 2026 AB495 grant period?</p> 	<p>LEAs will <u>not</u> be reimbursed for expenditures that go beyond December 31, 2026. Funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024; the ARP SLFRF funds for school districts and university schools will be “obligated” when the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has a fully executed subgrant agreement in place. Funding must be expended by December 31, 2026; expended means that invoices, goods and services must be received on or before that date. Items which were obligated by purchase order prior to December 31, 2024, and received by the subrecipient prior to December 31, 2026 may continue to be used beyond the December 31, 2026 grant period ending date.</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>What happens if an LEA has unspent funding after the AB495 grant period ending date of December 31, 2026?</p> 	<p>Any funds not used must be returned to the Treasury as part of the award closeout process pursuant to 2 C.F.R., 200.344(d).</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>34 CFR 76.707, which defines when obligations are made, specifically states “personal services by an employee of the</p>	<p>Per guidance from the Governor’s Finance Office, for the purposes of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act’s Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) which are distributed to Nevada school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024; the ARP SLFRF funds for school districts and university schools will be “obligated”


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	<p>state or subgrantee are obligated when the services are performed.” The NDE FAQ guidance states that employees can be funded through December 2026. 34 CFR 76.707 applied to potential AB495 funded employees would only allow us to pay staff for work performed up to December 31, 2024 but not after that date. Can you please provide clarification?</p>	<p>when the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has a fully executed subgrant agreement in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding must be expended by December 31, 2026; expended means that invoices, goods and services must be received on or before that date. <p>In addition, the Department of the Treasury issued a Final Rule for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds on January 27, 2022, which states:</p> <p><i>“The deadline for costs to be incurred— which the final rule clarifies means obligated—December 31, 2024, is specified in the ARPA statute, and Treasury will retain December 31, 2026 as the end of the period of performance to provide a reasonable amount of time for recipients to liquidate obligations incurred by the statutory deadline.”</i> (page 4433)</p> <p><i>“In the final rule, Treasury is also maintaining the deadlines by which funds must be obligated (i.e., December 31, 2024) and by which such obligations must be liquidated (i.e., December 31, 2026). The December 31, 2024 deadline by which eligible costs must be incurred is established by statute. Treasury is finalizing its interpretation of “incurred” to be equivalent to the definition of “obligation,” based on the definition used for purposes of the Uniform Guidance. Treasury is also maintaining the period of performance, which will run through December 31, 2026, and provides the deadline by which recipients must expend obligated funds. Most recipients received SLFRF funds in the spring and summer of 2021, meaning that they have over three years to obligate and over five years to expend funds. This provides a sufficient amount of time for recipients to plan and execute projects.”</i> (page 4433-4434)</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>Can a LEAs hire and pay employees through December 31, 2026 if each employee in the approved application was obligated by December 31, 2024?</p>	<p>Yes. Funds can be spent on salaries through December 31, 2026 if they are approved through the competitive application process and included in the executed final subaward provided that the subaward has been executed prior to December 31, 2024 when funds must be obligated.</p> <p>NDE is part of the prime recipient and is not a subrecipient/subgrantee. Per the Final Rule the Recipient (the State) must obligate funds by December 31, 2024 and expend the funds by December 31, 2026.</p> <p>The Treasury defines obligation/expenditure as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obligation: An obligation is an order placed for property and services, contracts and subawards made, and similar transactions that require payment. Expenditure: An expenditure is the amount that has been incurred as a liability of the entity (the service has been rendered or the


#	Question	Answer
		<p>good has been delivered to the entity).</p> <p>Based on these definitions above, when NDE issues the subaward and it is executed by all parties, the funding would be considered obligated and may be expended in accordance with that executed subaward through December 31, 2026 which is the period of performance.</p>
25	<p>If an LEA processes a purchase order late in 2024, but supply chain or other issues affect the timing of delivery, how will this be handled?</p>	<p>Supplies and equipment obligated by purchase order prior to December 31, 2024, must be received by the subrecipient prior to December 31, 2026 to be eligible for reimbursement.</p> <p>For the purposes of the ARP Act’s SLFRF which are distributed to Nevada school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024; the ARP SLFRF funds for school districts and university schools will be “obligated” when the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has a fully executed subgrant agreement in place. • Funding must be expended by December 31, 2026; expended means that invoices, goods and services must be received on or before that date.
26	<p>a. Will the subaward for these funds be issued for the entire length of the grant? For example, when we receive the subaward will the award period be from the approval date through 12/31/2026?</p> <p>b. When does the LEA’s/ school’s funding award period begin?</p>	<p>The funding period for all subawards that result from this competitive application process will begin on the date that the fully executed subaward is approved by all parties and will end on December 31, 2026.</p>
27	<p>When do these funds sunset?</p>	<p>The United States Department of the Treasury has published a document for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Guidance on Recipient Compliance and Reporting Responsibilities. Page 6 (six) of this document covers the Eligible Costs Timeframe and states that the funding period “ends on December 31, 2024, as long as the award funds for the obligations incurred by December 31, 2024 are expended by December 31, 2026.”</p> <p>For the purposes of the ARP Act’s SLFRF which are distributed to Nevada school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted:</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024; the ARP SLFRF funds for school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted will be considered “obligated” when the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has a fully executed subgrant agreement in place. • Funding must be expended by December 31, 2026; expended means that invoices, goods and services must be received on or before that date.
28	<p>Can you define the difference between obligation and liquidation? Since these are US Department of Treasury funds, does the liquidation period (expanded to Dec. 31, 2026) apply to contracts and goods? Does it also apply to retaining employees, who have been funded under AB495, up to December 31, 2026?</p>	<p>The United States Department of the Treasury has published a document for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Guidance on Recipient Compliance and Reporting Responsibilities. Page 6 (six) of this document covers the Eligible Costs Timeframe and states that the funding period “ends on December 31, 2024, as long as the award funds for the obligations incurred by December 31, 2024 are expended by December 31, 2026.”</p> <p>For the purposes of the ARP Act’s SLFRF which are distributed to Nevada school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted:</p> <p>Funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024; the ARP SLFRF funds for school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted will be considered “obligated” when the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has a fully executed subgrant agreement in place. Funding must be expended by December 31, 2026; expended means that invoices, goods and services must be received on or before that date.</p> <p>Invoices, goods, and services that have been funded in the approved subaward agreement budget must be received prior to December 31, 2026; therefore, services provided by employees are eligible for provision through December 31, 2026, and employees who are funded through the subrecipient’s ARP SLFRF dollars may be thus maintained through December 31, 2026.</p>
29	<p>Has the US Department of Treasury issued a letter or guidance document similar to what USED provided for ESSER funding that extends the liquidation period for an additional two years?</p>	<p>The United States Department of the Treasury has published a document for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Guidance on Recipient Compliance and Reporting Responsibilities. Page 6 (six) of this document covers the Eligible Costs Timeframe and states that the funding period “ends on December 31, 2024, as long as the award funds for the obligations incurred by December 31, 2024 are expended by December 31, 2026.”</p> <p>For the purposes of the ARP Act’s SLFRF which are distributed to Nevada school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024; the ARP SLFRF funds for school districts and university schools for the profoundly gifted will be considered “obligated” when the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has a fully executed subgrant agreement in place. • Funding must be expended by December 31, 2026; expended

#	Question	Answer
		means that invoices, goods and services must be received on or before that date.
30	Where is the Pre-Award Assessment Rubric located in ePage?	The link to the Pre-Award Assessment Rubric is located in ePAGE at the top of the Pre-Awards Assessment page.
31	Do LEAs need to submit a completed Pre-Award Assessment (PAA) rubric?	No. The PAA rubric is a reference document only. LEAs will need to complete the PAA in ePAGE.
32	Are LEAs who have already submitted a Pre-Award Assessment for other NDE grants required to complete the Pre-Award Assessment information in ePAGE?	Yes. The Pre-Award Assessment must be completed. The Pre-Award Assessment is required under state and federal regulation and is integrated into all NDE grants. Note that the majority of questions provide information regarding options to submit “N/A” or “Previously submitted for FY23” for subrecipients who have already completed a Pre-Award Assessment for FY23.


AB495 Allocable, Allowable, Reasonable, and Necessary Activities

#	Question	Answer
33	Can AB495 funding be used for construction and renovation projects such as school facility improvements to indoor air quality (i.e. heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC systems) and capital construction/renovation projects that promote social distancing and safe in-person instruction? 	The intent of the AB495 legislation is to augment and provide direct evidence-based services and supports to address learning loss. Services, strategies and activities that directly impact students and accelerate learning will be prioritized. While these types of construction and renovation expenses mentioned in the question are allocable, when creating their plan, LEAs must provide a strong rationale for how requested items address the impact of learning loss is required. Please note that these requests will not be prioritized.


#	Question	Answer
34	<p>Are LEAs allowed to purchase flight insurance?</p> 	<p>Most federal/state funding requires that the most cost-effective flight option is purchased, which is generally an economy or coach non-refundable ticket and which would not include flight insurance.</p>

AB495 Technical Assistance Sessions

#	Question	Answer
35	<p>Will copies of the AB495 PowerPoints and Technical Assistance webinar recordings be shared with the districts?</p>	<p>Copies of the PowerPoints and the Technical Assistance webinar recordings are posted to the Federal Relief Funding for K-12 Education page on the NDE website and emailed to the district grant contacts: (https://doe.nv.gov/FedReliefFund/K-12_Education/).</p> <p>AB495 Technical Assistance webinar #1 on July 7, 2022 Passcode: R*3hZXk^</p> <p>AB495 Technical Assistance webinar on July 12, 2022 Passcode: &=8%izQM</p> <p>AB495 Open Office Hours on July 21, 2022</p> <p>AB495 Open Office Hours on July 27, 2022 Passcode: VS=5EK^D</p>
36	<p>Are there any more Open Office Hours sessions scheduled?</p>	<p>Yes. There is another Open Office Hours session scheduled for Wednesday, August 10th, at 9:00 am: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82161773385 Additional Open Office Hours sessions may, as needed, be scheduled upon request.</p>
37	<p>Was there information covered in the July 7, 2022 webinar that was not included in the July 12, 2022 webinar?</p>	<p>Yes. The July 7, 2022, technical assistance webinar provided a comprehensive overview of the history and intent of AB495 funding, the Notification of Funding Opportunity and the process for submitting application in ePAGE. The July 12, 2022 technical assistance webinar was an overview of the history of funding and application requirements and included presentations by various offices within NDE discussing how grant activities may be linked to other programs to address learning loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>

#	Question	Answer
38	Given that all funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024, will revisions to the approved competitive application after the fully executed subgrant is awarded, be allowed? 	The AB495 funding is a <i>competitive</i> grant application. As such, any substantive revisions to the scope of work for services, strategies and activities will not be permitted. However, minor adjustments in budget line items are acceptable (i.e. future adjustments in fringe benefit rates, costs of supplies, etc.) as long as they are reasonable and necessary and aligned to the subrecipients approved competitive application.

Other Questions

#	Question	Answer
39	Has a 3-digit Project Code been assigned?	Yes. The Project Code for the Competitive AB495 American Rescue Plan Addressing the Impact of Learning Loss and Closing Funding Gap is 719.
40	Will AB495 grant application reviewer scores and comments be available following the announcement of the final awards? 	Yes. Scores and comments will be available after the subrecipients have received their fully executed grant awards.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or need assistance with AB495 Application, please contact the NDE staff below:

Name	Email	Role
Gabby Lamarre, Esq.	glamarre@doe.nv.gov	Director, Office of Student and School Supports
Christy McGill	cmcgill@doe.nv.gov	Director, Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment
Amber Reid	areid@doe.nv.gov	Administrative Services Officer 3, District Support Services
Marie DuFresne	mdufresne@doe.nv.gov	Education Programs Supervisor

Federal Relief Funds Core Team in the Office of Student and School Supports

Name	Email	Role
David Asato	david.asato@doe.nv.gov	Federal Relief Funds Programs Specialist
Brenda Bledsoe	brendabledsoe@doe.nv.gov	Education Programs Professional
Blakely Hume	bhume@doe.nv.gov	Education Programs Professional
Tawney Pearson	tawney.pearson@doe.nv.gov	Federal Relief Funds Programs Specialist
Dr. Susan Ulrey	sulrey@doe.nv.gov	Education Programs Professional

Supports for Tiers in the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment

Name	Email	Role
Dana Walburn	dwalburn@doe.nv.gov	Education Programs Professional (Tiers 2-3)
Ruby Kelly	kellyr@doe.nv.gov	Education Programs Professional (workforce development strategies)

Grants Technical Assistance from the Office of District Support Services, Grants Management Unit (GMU)

Universal GMU Account	grantsinfo@doe.nv.gov
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Financial Risk Assessment from the Office of Division Compliance

Universal Compliance Account	sidcompliance@doe.nv.gov
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Glossary of Acronyms

- **AB495** – [Assembly Bill 495](#)
- **ARP** – American Rescue Plan
- **ePAGE** – Electronic Plans, Applications, Grants, and Expenditures, NDE’s electronic grants management portal
- **ESSER** – Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief
- **LEA** – Local education agency, meaning county school districts and the State Public Charter School Authority
- **NDE** – Nevada Department of Education
- **NOFO** – Notice of Funding Opportunity
- **SLFRF** – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds