

Section: Narratives - Assessing Impacts and Needs

CTC ARP ESSER APPLICATION

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) recognizes the extraordinary efforts made by career and technical centers (CTC), and educators to support students during the COVID-19 pandemic. The application below requests information from CTC about: (1) Needs and impacts resulting from the pandemic, (2) Stakeholder engagement in the development of local plans to respond to these needs and impacts, (3) Specific elements in the CTC Plan for the Use of ARP ESSER Funds; and (4) Plans for monitoring and measuring progress. As submitted and accepted by PDE in final form, this application shall become part of the Grant Agreement for ARP ESSER funds as Appendix B. As used in this application, "the CTC" refers to the Grantee defined in the Grant Agreement.

ARP ESSER includes a significant focus on vulnerable student populations. Given these requirements, as well as PDE's own equity commitments, the CTC application includes specific fields requesting information on programs to serve student groups that have experienced disproportionate impacts from the pandemic. Student groups are inclusive of the following:

- Students from low-income families;
- Students from each racial or ethnic group (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by race or ethnicity);
- Gender (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by gender);
- English learners;
- Children with disabilities (including infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA]);
- Students experiencing homelessness;
- Children and youth in foster care;
- Nontraditional
- Single Parent
- Military Family
- Migrant students; and
- Other groups disproportionately impacted by the pandemic that have been identified by the LEA (e.g., youth involved in the criminal justice system, students who have missed the most in-person instruction during the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years, students who did not consistently participate in remote instruction when offered during school building closures, and LGBTQ+ students).

Section I: Assessing Impacts and Needs

In this first section, CTCs are asked to describe the impact of the pandemic on their students, examine disproportionate impacts on specific student groups, and highlight the CTC's promising practices in supporting student needs since March 2020.

Indicators of Impact

1. Understanding the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Describe how the CTC has identified or will identify the extent of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student learning and well-being. Specifically, what methods

(i.e., collecting and analyzing data and information from focus groups, surveys, and local assessment results) were used or will be used to identify and measure impacts in four key areas: (1) Academic/Technical impact of lost instructional time, (2) Chronic absenteeism, (3) Student engagement, and (4) Social-emotional well-being?

	Methods Used to Understand Each Type of Impact
Academic/Technical Impact of Lost Instructional Time	Arrival and Dismissal Charts, NOCTI Scores, Job Titles earned
Chronic Absenteeism	E-School Data (district-wide student information system) attendance reports
Student Engagement	E-School Data (district-wide student information system) work ethic points
Social-emotional Well-being	E-School Data (district-wide student information system) journal logs
Other Indicators	

Documenting Disproportionate Impacts

2. Identify the **student** groups in the CTC that faced particularly significant impacts from the pandemic. For each, provide specific strategies that were used or will be used to identify and measure impacts.

Student Group	Provide specific strategies that were used or will be used to identify and measure impacts
Children with disabilities (including infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA])	Job Titles, Certifications earned, NOCTI scores

Reflecting on Local Strategies

3. Provide the CTC's assessment of the top strategy that has been most effective in supporting the needs of students, in particular specific student groups most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Strategies two and three below are optional.

	Strategy Description
Strategy #1	Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing and recording of lessons

i. **Impacts that Strategy #1 best addresses:** (select all that apply)

- Impact of lost instructional time**
- Chronic absenteeism**
- Student engagement**
- Social-emotional well-being**

Other impact

i. If Other is selected above, please provide the description here:

iii. Student group(s) that Strategy #1 most effectively supports: (select all that apply)

- Students from low-income families
- Students from each racial or ethnic group (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by race or ethnicity)
- Gender (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by gender)
- English learners
- Children with disabilities (including infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA))
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Children and youth in foster care
- Migrant students
- Other student groups: (provide description below)

iv. If Other is selected above, please provide the description here.

Reflecting on Local Strategies: Strategy #2 - Please note: this strategy is optional.

	Strategy Description
Strategy #2	

i. Impacts that Strategy #2 best addresses: (select all that apply)

- Impact of lost instructional time
- Chronic absenteeism
- Student engagement
- Social-emotional well-being
- Other impact

i. If Other is selected above, please provide the description here:

iii. Student group(s) that Strategy #2 most effectively supports: (select all that apply)

- Students from low-income families
- Students from each racial or ethnic group (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by race or ethnicity)
- Gender (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by gender)
- English learners
- Children with disabilities (including infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA))
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Children and youth in foster care
- Migrant students
- Other student groups: (provide description below)

iv. If Other is selected above, please provide the description here.

Reflecting on Local Strategies: Strategy #3 - Please note: this strategy is optional.

	Strategy Description
Strategy #3	

i. Impacts that Strategy #3 best addresses: (select all that apply)

- Impact of Lost Instructional Time
- Chronic absenteeism
- Student engagement
- Social-emotional well-being
- Other impact

i. If Other is selected above, please provide the description here:

iii. Student group(s) that Strategy #3 most effectively supports: (select all that apply)

- Students from low-income families
- Students from each racial or ethnic group (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by race or ethnicity)
- Gender (e.g., identifying disparities and focusing on underserved student groups by gender)
- English learners
- Children with disabilities (including infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA))
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Children and youth in foster care
- Migrant students
- Other student groups: (provide description below)

iv. If Other is selected above, please provide the description here:

Section: Narratives - Engaging Stakeholders in Plan Development

Section II: Engaging Stakeholders in Plan Development

In this second section, CTCs are asked to provide information on how stakeholders will be engaged in planning for the use of ARP ESSER funds, how stakeholder input will be utilized, and how the CTC will make its CTC Plan for the Use of ARP ESSER Funds transparent to the public—all critical components in developing, implementing, and adjusting plans based on the differential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Stakeholder Engagement

Describe how the CTC, in planning for the use of ARP ESSER funds, has engaged or will engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders. **(3,000 characters max)**

(Stakeholders include any relevant group to the CTC, such as students; families; CTC and sending district administrators (including special education administrators); teachers; principals; school leaders; other educators; school staff; and unions. In addition, to the extent that the following groups are present in or served by the CTC, stakeholders also include community partners, civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migrant students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students; and tribes.)

Berks Career & Technology Center will have various meetings with several key stakeholders throughout each school year which includes the Professional Advisory Committee which is comprised of approximately nine of the sending district superintendents, the Superintendent of Record for BCTC and the BCTC Executive Director. The PAC serves as advisors to the BCTC Executive Director of the school budget, programs and staffing, the Berks Executive Committee assists in the development and maintenance of the total vocational education program and to advise BCTC on regional labor market demands, the need for specialized training and other matters related to the career and technical educational program. The Council is composed of representatives of labor, industry, business, educational and community-based agencies, the Occupational Advisory Committee serves as a vital link to the local community, primarily the business and industry community of the region. The primary purpose of an occupational advisory committee is to strengthen the career and technical education program by making recommendations for program improvement and providing technical assistance to assure the most up-to-date curriculum, laboratory, equipment, and applications of technology. These recommendations are expected to be data driven. In addition, the committee is considered an important advocate for CTE in the community. Advisory committees serve an advisory capacity only and do not have administrative or governing authority. The Career Center is governed by a Joint Operating Committee and is comprised of school directors from each of the 16 sponsoring school districts.

5. Use of Stakeholder Input

Describe how the CTC has taken or will take stakeholder and public input into account in the development of the CTC Plan for the Use of ARP ESSER Funds. **(3,000 characters max)**

During the school year we meet with the Professional Advisory Committee, Berks Executive Committee, Occupational Advisory Committee, and 16 Superintendents from our sending schools

(virtually/in person) to help them understand the issues, options, and solutions BCTC is going through for the particular school year. Consulting with these individuals allows us to obtain their feedback, alternatives, or decisions.

6. Public Access to LEA Plan for the Use of ARP ESSER Funds

Describe the process for development, approval, and making public the CTC Plan for the Use of ARP ESSER Funds. The CTC Plan for the Use of ARP ESSER Funds must be made publicly available on the CTC website and submitted to PDE within 90 days of LEA receipt of ARP ESSER funding, must be written in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, and must be provided in alternate format upon request by a parent/caregiver who is an individual with a disability. **(3,000 characters max)**

Once we have received various feedback from Professional Advisory Committee, Berks Executive Committee, Occupational Advisory Committee, and 16 Superintendents from our sending schools our administrative team we take their input to our Joint Operating Committee to vote on final approval. Once approved all minutes are placed on our website for the general public to be able to see.

Section: Narratives - Plan for ARP ESSER Funds

Section III: Using ARP ESSER Funds to Plan for Safe, In-Person Instruction

In this third section, CTCs are asked to reflect on both the impacts and needs described in Section I and stakeholder engagement described in Section II to provide a description of the CTC plan for the use of ARP ESSER funds.

7. Plan for Funds

How will the CTC spend its ARP ESSER funds as outlined in the fields below ? **(3,000 characters max)**

1. Continuity of Services: How will the CTC use ARP ESSER funds to sustain services to address students’ academic needs; students’ and staff social, emotional, and mental health needs; and student nutrition and food services?
2. Access to Instruction: How will the CTC use ARP ESSER funds to support the goals of increasing opportunity to learn and equity in instructional delivery? Consider regular attendance/chronic absenteeism data from the 2020-21 school year, including data disaggregated by student groups, in developing the response.
3. Mitigation Strategies: How will the CTC use ARP ESSER funds to support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities and transportation services to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff? Consider the LEA’s Health and Safety Plan in developing the response.
4. Facilities Improvements: How will the CTC use ARP ESSER funds to repair and improve school facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission, address environmental health hazards, and/or improve ventilation? Consider the LEA’s Health and Safety Plan in developing the response.
5. Other, i.e summer school, extended day, and staffing

Plan for Funds	Explanation
Facilities Improvements	Purchase and install new Chiller for both our East and West Campus locations. New chillers will allow us the ability to increase ventilation overall with a focus on increasing ventilation rates from occupied hours only to instead 6AM - 5PM daily. Nightly events can alter or add to ventilation times.

Section: Narratives - Monitoring and Measuring Progress

Section IV: Monitoring and Measuring Progress

In this fourth section, CTCs are asked to describe efforts to build local capacity to ensure high-quality data collection and reporting to safeguard funds for their intended purposes.

8. Capacity for Data Collection and Reporting

CTCs must continuously monitor progress and adjust strategies as needed. Describe the CTC’s capacity and strategy to collect and analyze data (disaggregated by student group, where applicable), for each of the following measures:

	Data Collection and Analysis Plan (including plan to disaggregate data)
Student learning, including academic impact of lost instructional time during the COVID-19 pandemic	Our administrative team looked over our results on students NOCTI scores, certifications and job titles earned over the past couple of years and would like to adopt and use higher quality instructional materials, provide necessary professional development to our educators, and create support structures to accelerate learning.
Opportunity to learn measures (see help text)	Through our student, parent and teacher surveys and it has become evident that our students are falling behind. Opportunity gaps have existed in our school systems for the last two years. As BCTC builds back from the pandemic, we are also recommitting to providing an excellent education to every child. A potential starting point could be redoubling efforts to provide engaging, high-quality curriculum and instruction delivered by diverse and effective educators in every lab, supported by effective assessments to inform instruction and support. Creating and implementing professional development plans also benefits teachers by putting structure around their complex and evolving training needs. This can help them manage their personal and professional goals, making them accountable for learning and giving them a sense of accomplishment for the progress they make. Effective professional development results in more successful curricula and classroom environments, which ultimately benefit students.
Jobs created and retained (by number of FTEs and position type) (see help text)	Not applicable
Participation in programs funded by ARP ESSER resources (e.g., summer and afterschool programs)	Not applicable
Impact of Student Social and Emotional Needs	Through our ESD journals logs created by our staff we hope to begin to reengage students in their learning by meeting the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students through creative staffing. We would also like to provide information and assistance to families as they support students, through information sharing; and using high-quality assessments to inform teaching and learning, including acceleration, and target resources and supports.

Section: Narratives - ARP ESSER Prior Approval

ARP ESSER PRIOR APPROVAL

CTC's that wish to expend ESSER funds on facilities initiatives may be permitted to:

- make facility upgrades to comply with American Disabilities Act requirements
- upgrade HVAC systems
- remediate mold, lead, and other sources of poor indoor air quality
- install mechanical ventilation and/or advanced filtration systems
- replace windows to allow for improved intake of fresh air
- replace plumbing to ensure safe drinking water—among other upgrades that improve the health and safety of school buildings.

All **capital expenditures** supported with federal funds must be pre-approved by PDE. Capital expenditures means expenditures to acquire capital assets (i.e., land, facilities, or equipment over \$5,000 per unit) or expenditures to make additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life.

Construction means (A) the preparation of drawings and specifications for school facilities; (B) erecting, building, acquiring, altering, remodeling, repairing, or extending school facilities; (C) inspecting and supervising the construction of school facilities; and (D) debt service for such activities (ESEA section 7013(3), 20 U.S.C. § 7713(3)).

Directions: School Entities seeking prior approval for Construction/Renovation or Other Capital Expenditures must:

Complete the form for each contractor/project that will be supported with ARP ESSER funds. If using multiple vendors for one project, i.e., classroom expansion, enter total cost per vendor to equal the total budgeted cost of the “classroom expansion” project. Completed forms must be uploaded to this section. Prior to uploading forms, they must be signed off by your School Entity's Superintendent/CEO/Executive Director.

Will you be using a portion of your ARP ESSER funds for Construction and/or Other Capital Expenditures? If no please select 'No' and mark section complete.

Yes

In the table below, please provide the name and type (construction vs. other capital expenditure) of the proposed project and a brief description. Please enter each contractor/project on a separate line in the table.

Name of Proposed Project	Type of Project	Brief Description of Proposed Project



CHECK HERE - to assure that you have successfully uploaded your Prior Approval Form(s) if applicable.

Section: Narratives - Health and Safety Plan Upload and URL

CTCs HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN AND URL

Please upload your CTC's Health and Safety Plan below, and check the assurance indicating that you have completed your upload. Please name the file using your CTC name followed by Health and Safety Plan. example: "*CTC Name-Health and Safety Plan*"

CTCs are required to add the URL where the approved plan will be posted to the CTC's public website. Please add the URL below.

https://berkscareer.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/BCTC-Health-and-Safety-Plan-_23August2021-_FINAL.pdf

CHECK HERE - to assure that you have successfully uploaded your CTC Health and Safety Plan.

Section: Budget - Instruction Expenditures

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget

\$1,087,156.00

Allocation

\$1,087,156.00

Budget Over(Under) Allocation

\$0.00

INSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES

Function	Object	Amount	Description
		\$	
		\$0.00	

Section: Budget - Support and Non-Instruction Expenditures

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget

\$1,087,156.00

Allocation

\$1,087,156.00

Budget Over(Under) Allocation

\$0.00

SUPPORT AND NON-INSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES

Function	Object	Amount	Description
4000 - FACILITIES ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT SERVICES	700 - Property	\$845,417.00	Chillers for East and West Campuses
4000 - FACILITIES ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT SERVICES	700 - Property	\$10,000.00	Building control systems for new chillers
4000 - FACILITIES ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT SERVICES	700 - Property	\$231,739.00	Air Handlers
		\$1,087,156.00	

Section: Budget - Budget Summary
 BUDGET SUMMARY

	100 Salaries	200 Benefits	300 Purchased Professional and Technical Services	400 Purchased Property Services	500 Other Purchased Services	600 Supplies 800 Dues and Fees	700 Property	Totals
1000 Instruction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1100 REGULAR PROGRAMS – ELEMENTARY / SECONDARY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1200 SPECIAL PROGRAMS – ELEMENTARY / SECONDARY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1300 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1400 Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1600 * ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1700 Higher Education Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1800 Pre-K	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2000 SUPPORT SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2100 SUPPORT SERVICES – STUDENTS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2200 Staff Support Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2300 SUPPORT SERVICES – ADMINISTRATION	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

	100 Salaries	200 Benefits	300 Purchased Professional and Technical Services	400 Purchased Property Services	500 Other Purchased Services	600 Supplies 800 Dues and Fees	700 Property	Totals
2400 Health Support Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2500 Business Support Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2600 Operation and Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2700 Student Transportation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2800 Central Support Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3000 OPERATION OF NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3100 Food Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3200 Student Activities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3300 Community Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4000 FACILITIES ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,087,156.00	\$1,087,156.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,087,156.00	\$1,087,156.00
Approved Indirect Cost/Operational Rate:								\$0.00
Final								\$1,087,156.00

