

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	The impact of lost instructional time has already been recognized in student performance on local assessments and high-stakes tests. The online-only portion of the NOCTI exam was conducted in the spring of 2021 and the results were better than expected. Due to the pandemic, much hands-on instruction and practice was lost. Therefore, students spent a greater amount of virtual time on the “knowledge-based” concepts of the discipline rather than the hands-on concepts. Slightly increased performance on the online-only test is, in part, attributed to the fact that there was an increased amount of time focused on knowledge based elements over hands-on elements. Program teachers have noted that skill performance is lagging because of this loss of hands-on time as seen through students progress through the program and performance of skill competency evaluations. Local assessments as well as the NOCTI exam performed this coming April will continually be analyzed for performance.
Chronic Absenteeism	Student absence rates are significant due to the requirement to exclude students from school whether positive for COVID-19 or identified as a close contact. To date, there are nearly 3,500 cumulative days of absence as a result of COVID-19 alone.
Student Engagement	As one would expect, there is a strong correlation between students’ lacking engagement when required to attend to their studies in a virtual format. The lagging progress and performance noted above are, without a doubt, a result of less than ideal teaching and learning models for trade programs.
Social-emotional Well-being	While no specific measures have been taken to assess students’ social-emotional well-being, there are plans to implement student and family satisfaction and engagement surveys that have the potential to reveal students’ and families’ relationship with our school. Through this survey work, we plan to include inquiries that have the potential to identify these areas of a students’ well-being.
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
	Special consideration and monitoring of special

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])	population students has occurred throughout the pandemic, specifically when virtual learning was in place. As an example, special education personnel and instructional support paraprofessionals managed caseloads of students for which they maintained frequent contact. Outreach to students was the priority of these professionals as their progress was monitored. Every effort was made to assist with student work and participation.

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	Maintain ability to provide daily in-person instruction for students in order to maximize academic achievement, student engagement, and monitor social-emotional well-being of students. This goal can be best accomplished by ensuring continual mitigation efforts of COVID-19 are performed by the maintenance staff on a daily basis.

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.)

The GACTC worked with the administration from our member districts and the Joint Operating Committee (JOC), comprised of 20 Board Members from member districts, in February to determine a potential plan for use of the funds. In addition, consultation with the CLNA Steering Committee will also be completed through an online survey. The CLNA Steering Committee represents a diversified group of individuals which includes: teachers, counselors, principals, administrator, paraprofessionals, postsecondary faculty, postsecondary administration, workforce board representatives, employers (local and regional), parents, students, special population representatives, out of school youth representatives, homeless youth representatives, and at-risk youth representatives.

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)**

The initial plan for use of funds was approved by the JOC at the February Board Meeting. Additional input from the CLNA Steering Committee will also be taken into consideration after the survey is complete. We are confident the work completed, prior to the survey, with the administration from our member districts and the JOC will be approved by the CLNA Steering Committee as well. Input from the CLNA Steering Committee will be taken into consideration in the development of the plan for use of funds.

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)**

Approval has been received by the JOC in February 2022. Once input is provided by the CLNA Steering Committee, a document will be compiled which will outline the use of funds and will be posted on the GACTC website, www.gactc.edu. and submitted to PDE within 90 days of LEA receipt of ARP ESSER funding. The plan will be written in a language that parents/caregivers can understand and will be provided in alternate format upon request by a parent/caregiver who is an individual with a disability. The general public, included parents/caregivers will have access to the document. Contact information will also be posted in the event additional questions arise.

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
Mitigation Strategies	The GACTC will utilize the ARP ESSER funds for the salaries and benefits of 8 retained Custodial personnel to support prevention and mitigation of COVID-19, in order to maintain the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors to the GACTC. Salary expenses for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 are \$417,346.00 and benefits are \$330,233.00.

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	Local assessments as well as the NOCTI exam performed this coming April will continually be analyzed for student achievement.
Opportunity to learn measures (see help text)	The pandemic has had an impact on everything, and in a school environment, we measure a lot of things from academics to attendance to performance on standardized tests, to enrollment, retention, visits to the health suite, etc. All of these provide an opportunity to learn from the information we have.
Jobs created and retained (by number of FTEs and position type) (see help text)	The ESSER funds are being used to retain 8 Custodial Personnell Positions.
Participation in programs funded by ARP ESSER resources (e.g., summer and afterschool programs)	This school entity is not using any ESSER funding to support any academic programming.
Impact of Student Social and Emotional Needs	No specific measures have been taken to assess students’ social-emotional well-being, there are plans to implement student and family satisfaction and engagement surveys that have the potential to reveal students’ and families’ relationship with our school. Through this survey work, we plan to include inquiries that have the potential to identify these areas of a students’ well-being.

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.

No

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://www.gactc.edu/about/covid-19/>

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

Section: Budget - Instruction Expenditures

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget

\$747,579.00

Allocation

\$747,579.00

Budget Over(Under) Allocation

\$0.00

INSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES

Function	Object	Amount	Description
		\$	
		\$0.00	

Section: Budget - Support and Non-Instruction Expenditures

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget

\$747,579.00

Allocation

\$747,579.00

Budget Over(Under) Allocation

\$0.00

SUPPORT AND NON-INSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES

Function	Object	Amount	Description
2600 - Operation and Maintenance	100 - Salaries	\$417,346.00	Pay for the salaries of 8 retained Custodial Personnel Positions for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 schools years to implement mitigation strategies at the GACTC.
2600 - Operation and Maintenance	200 - Benefits	\$330,233.00	Pay for the benefits of 8 retained Custodial Personnel Positions for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 schools years to implement mitigation strategies at the GACTC.
		\$747,579.00	

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	\$417,346.00	\$330,233.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$747,579.00
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	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$417,346.00	\$330,233.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$747,579.00
Approved Indirect Cost/Operational Rate: 0.0688								\$0.00
Final								\$747,579.00