



CARES Act (ESSER Fund) Guidelines

Professional Development Services to Private Nonprofit Schools

CARES Act (ESSER Fund) school share allocations are to be utilized to increase the academic achievement of all students by helping schools improve teacher and principal quality. Activities carried out for private nonprofit school personnel must be evidence-based. Only those workshops, conferences, and degree programs and university courses (subject to district guidelines) that meet federal requirements as outlined by the CARES Act (ESSER Fund) guidelines and HISD will be approved by Catapult Learning, HISD, and TEA.

Eligible Professional Development Activities may include:

- Improving the knowledge of teachers, principals, and other educational personnel in one or more of the core academic subjects and in effective instructional teaching strategies, methods, and skills;
- Training in effectively integrating technology into curricula and instruction;
- Training in how to teach students with different needs, including students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, and gifted and talented students;
- Training in methods of improving student behavior, identifying early and appropriate interventions, and involving parents more effectively in their children's education;
- Leadership development and management training to improve the quality of principals and superintendents; and
- Training in the use of data and assessments to improve instruction and student outcomes.

Additional Title II Eligible Opportunities per ESSA:

- Assessment and Data Analysis
 - Career Readiness Education
 - Child Sexual Abuse Prevention
 - Early Childhood Instruction
 - Effectively Teaching Children with Disabilities
 - Effectively Teaching English Learners
 - Evaluation and Support Systems
 - Other Evidence-Based Professional Development
- NOTE:** With Evidence-Based Professional Development, there is rigor and relevance of evidence, a local capacity to implement, and there is evidence in content when considering this professional development.
- Supporting Students Affected by Trauma and/or Mental Illness
 - STEM-focused Professional Development