2023-2024 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan
Frequently Asked Questions

Please submit questions to ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.

1.	**What resources are available to assist with completing the plan?** All resources can be found in the Pandemic Relief Guidance and Resources Library. ● 🟢 2023-2024 ARAP Workbook for LEAs ● 2023-2024 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan Checklist ● 2023-2024 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan - Comeback 3.0 Presentation Deck
2.	**How do you find the plan in eGMS?** The 2023-2024 ARAP is in FY24 in eGMS. Once the contact and assurance information is complete, the application will be visible on the Access/Select page. At that point the LEA will need to create the application in eGMS. The workbook is a tool to assist school systems with collaboration in developing the plan and will not be submitted.
3.	**When are plans due?**

August 1, 2023	Release 2023-2024 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Template
August 2-4, 2023	LDOE will host ARAP support calls
August 15, 2023	Release 2023-2024 School System Data Template (FTP)
September 1, 2023	2023-2024 ARAP Plans DUE
September - October	2023-2024 ARAP plans reviewed and posted to the Louisiana Comeback website

4.	**Who is required to complete the plan?** Each city, parish, or other local public school board shall develop and submit a plan (including charter schools).
5.	**What information will be included in the data template?** 📄 2023-2024 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan_data template_for LEAs NOTE: An updated data template will be provided via the FTP on 8/18.
6.	**Who is reviewing the plan?** Each plan will undergo two reviews. The LDOE grants management team will conduct the first review, and a final review will be done by the LDOE ARAP lead.
7.	**How will LDOE notify the LEA if revisions are needed?** Answer: If revisions are needed to the ARAP plan, as with other applications in eGMS, the ARAP application will be returned for change. When this occurs, the contact person listed in LEA Central Data in eGMS for the ARAP Application will receive an email notification from the eGMS system indicating the application has been returned for change.

8.	**How will the LEA know the approval status?** The approval status for the plan will be available in eGMS. In eGMS on the Access/Select page, there is a "Status" column next to the Application Title. The Status column will indicate the current status of the application: Not Submitted, Submitted, Returned for Change, Final Approved with Comments, or Final Approved.
9.	**In EGMS, will we be able to indicate multiple funding sources for a priority if applicable?** The workbook does not include an option to add multiple fund sources, however, school systems will have a funding source drop down in the the eGMS application per key investment to include additional lines if multiple fund sources are being used.
10.	**Should the amounts be for the coming 23-24 only or previous years?** Fund sources should reflect investments for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.
11.	**What is Act 458 and what is required of LEAs and LDOE?** Act 458 of the 2023 regular legislative session amended and reenacted R.S. 17:100.13 requires each city, parish, or other local public school board to develop an educational plan and supporting budget to provide expanded academic support to students in grades three through eight who failed to achieve mastery on the statewide assessment in reading or math using federal funds provided for educational relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Such plan shall be submitted to the state Department of Education for review and approval.
12.	**What level of detail is acceptable for the narrative response if a significant change is indicated for a key investment?** The narrative describing the significant change should include enough detail that provide information about the major work/ initiative/ project/ shift the LEA will do in 23-24, that is a change from prior years. Where applicable, data points should be included to support the rational for the significant shift. These responses have a 1250 character limit. See below for a example. *Apple Parish hired a new parent/family coordinator to work with three high schools to implement attendance awareness and family support services. These high schools have chronically absent and discipline infraction rates that exceed the average of the LEA and the state. Last year, 134 students across these three campuses were identified as "at-risk". The coordinator will work with schools to optimize dropout early warning systems and facilitate communication with families and students. Additionally, the coordinator will lead a PLC for the three school leadership teams to progress monitor and share best practices. This coordinator is funded 50% with ESSER and 50% state general funds.*
13.	**Should the narrative response only reflect major changes that are funded with ESSER?** The 23-24 ARAP requirees key investments/ priority work regardless of fund source. Given the period of availability for ESSER funds is ending, school systems are starting to braid funds to continue work. As such, the narrative should reflect major shifts regardless of funding. It would be valuable to indicate the fund source in the narrative for context. See highlighted sentence in the answer above.
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	continue work. As such, the narrative should reflect major shifts regardless of funding. It would be valuable to indicate the fund source in the narrative for context. **What are allowable expenses for ESSER formula funds?** ESSER-and-GEER-Use-of-Funds-FAQs-December-7-2022-Update.pdf
15.	**Does "State" in the fund source drop down include general funds?** "State" are funds given at the state level to school systems. The option of "Local" has been added to the drop down.
16.	**Is there guidance for how to address the "reopening" key investment?** Per the interim final rule for ESSER plans, this requirement clarifies what an LEA's plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must address and requires periodic review and, when needed, revision of the plan to ensure it remains relevant and meets statutory and regulatory requirements. School systems should refer to the CDC's safety recommendations and consult LDH for additional support.