



## GUIDANCE FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

# Improving our schools with new Federal funding for educational infrastructure

[usa.siemens.com/education](https://usa.siemens.com/education)

School closures have been described as “one of the most debilitating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic,” and as such, educators, administrators, and parents have been eager to create the safest, healthiest learning environments possible.

### Supporting safe and healthy indoor environments

Many schools and districts have already leveraged Federal funding sources to make building improvements that support safe re-opening. Repairs and upgrades that improve ventilation and filtration and reduce the risk of virus transmission and exposure have been a priority.

### It's time to reinvent, rebuild, and strengthen our schools

In April 2022<sup>1</sup>, the White House placed clear prioritization and use of a range of federal funds to address school infrastructure needs and provided a toolkit to assist schools in these efforts.

In addition to encouraging strategic use of remaining ESSER funds, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) offers new funding opportunities, including:

- **The Clean School Bus Program** provides \$5 billion of funding to update school transportation from diesel to alternative fuel and zero-emission school buses and applies towards buses and supporting electrical infrastructure.
- **Grants for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities** provides \$500 million grants to make energy efficiency, renewable energy, and alternative fueled vehicle upgrades.

By taking the right steps today, we can transform our educational infrastructure so that it's smarter, safer, more sustainable, and more resilient – all of which can also translate into enhanced efficiency, comfort, improved health and safety, and even lower cost of operations.



### **Deadline extended!**

The U.S. Department of Education will allow flexibility for states to liquidate ESSER funds beyond the programs' original deadlines.\*

# SIEMENS

# Available funding can make a real difference for your school or district today and for the future



## Indoor air quality (IAQ) + comfort

Improving indoor air ventilation and filtration not only helps prevent the spread of disease, but it can also improve academic achievement for kids most at risk<sup>ii</sup>.



## Renewable energy + energy conservation improvements

Federal funding helps enable public buildings to reduce emissions, improve efficiency and safety, and conserve energy and natural resources.

- Take advantage of renewable energy sources
- Improve building systems (HVAC, lighting, controls) and envelope to have a positive impact on student, staff, and teacher health



## Smart, efficient building infrastructure

Schools can leverage strategic infrastructure investment opportunities, with a focus on modern, clean, energy efficient facilities and transportation.



## eSchool buses and eCharging

The Clean School Bus program administered through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to replace existing school buses with zero-emission school buses and clean school buses helps:

- Reduce tailpipe pollution in your community
- Enable quiet, clean operation
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Lessen maintenance and fuel costs



Siemens can help you navigate how to make the best use

of this funding to make eligible improvements, from healthy, safe learning environments that are more energy efficient to investments in smart, efficient school infrastructure and transportation.

We can also assist with alternative financing mechanisms to help enable greater impact and energy savings.

Siemens is proud to support the "Efficient and Healthy Schools" campaign which is an interagency effort between DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Education—and we're encouraging you to join too! It's a great opportunity to benefit from peer success sharing, technical support, and more. This campaign aims to provide recognition and technical assistance to school districts seeking to implement high-impact indoor air quality and efficiency improvements that will reduce energy bills and improve student and teacher health. Make your commitment and join here!

Visit [usa.siemens.com/education](https://usa.siemens.com/education) to learn more about how to transform your educational spaces today into healthy, efficient, and productive learning environments.

\* Per the U.S. Department of Education's (ED) late liquidation letter (May 13, 2022), ED can and will allow flexibility for states to liquidate ESSER funds, with a prioritization on construction projects, beyond the programs' original deadlines. Districts can work with states to apply for an extension to liquidate funds 18 months after obligation – to as late as April 2026 - or longer if there are extenuating circumstances. Contracts must be signed by original ESSER deadlines (ESSER I 9/22, ESSER II 9/23 and ESSER III 9/24).

<sup>i</sup> Forbes.com

<sup>ii</sup> WhiteHouse.gov

<sup>iii</sup> Grid.news

### Legal Manufacturer

Siemens Industry, Inc.  
1000 Deerfield Parkway  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089-4513  
United States of America

Telephone: +1 (847) 215-1000  
[usa.siemens.com/education](https://usa.siemens.com/education)

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