

2021-24 American Rescue Plan

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

Local Educational Agency ARP ESSER Plan,

Application and Assurances

**[Dixie - 150]**

**Purpose**

Florida must subgrant not less than 90 percent of its total ARP ESSER allocation to local educational agencies (LEAs) (including charter schools that are LEAs) to help meet a wide range of needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic, including reopening schools safely, sustaining their safe operation, and addressing students’ social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs resulting from the pandemic. The State must allocate these funds to LEAs on the basis of their respective shares of funds received under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) in fiscal year (FY) 2020.

The purpose of this document is to guide districts to plan for the continued implementation of reopening and recovery through the utilization of the 2021-24 ARP ESSER and to assure federal requirements are met. Florida utilized the 2020-21 District Reopening Plan and the Spring 2021 Education Plan to respond to and mitigate the impact of the emergency and to promote the health, safety, and welfare of persons connected with Florida’s educational system.

The Department recognizes that the safe return to in-person instruction must be accompanied by a focus on meeting students’ academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs, and by addressing the opportunity gaps that existed before – and were exacerbated by – the pandemic. In this document, districts will describe how they will support the development of high-quality plans for the use of ARP ESSER funds to achieve these objectives for the following student groups: students from low-income families, from each racial or ethnic background, by gender, English Language Learners, students with disabilities, experiencing homelessness, in foster care, migratory students and other student groups.

**Directions**

Districts shall submit its ARP ESSER application to the Office of Grants Management via ShareFile **on or before November 12, 2021**. ShareFile access has been established for the ARP ESSER Lump Sum program for each LEA. The complete application shall include:

* LEA ARP ESSER Plan, Application and Assurances utilizing this template;
* DOE 100A Project Application Form; and
* DOE 101 Budget Narrative Form.

Each LEA developed and made publicly available on the LEA’s website a plan for the safe return of in-person learning in the Fall of 2020. This was before the enactment of the ARP Act. This plan must be updated to address the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195. The requirements of the Interim Final Rule are summarized in Appendix A. Each LEA shall seek public comment on the updated plan and take such comments into account prior to the submission of the final plan to the Department. Updated plans must comply with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency action, or any agency regulation or rule. No later than 60 days from receipt of its DOE 200, Project Award Notice, each LEA shall email its updated final plan to [recoveryplan@fldoe.org](mailto:recoveryplan@fldoe.org). The subject line of the email must include district name and Plan for the Safe Return of In-person Instruction. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

**Part I: Implementation Plan**

**The LEA will submit an implementation plan, outlining planned activities for each of the following uses of funds under section 2001(e) of the ARP Act. The description must be adequate to ascertain that the proposed use of funds is necessary to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students.**

**Activities should be numbered consecutively. If the LEA does not plan any activities for one or more authorized uses, please indicate that there are no planned activities. School district LEAs shall include the activities identified for charter schools within the LEA, aggregated at the district/LEA level.**

**Activity 1**: **Addressing Learning Loss (at least 20% of total allocation).** Of the total amount allocated to an LEA, the LEA must reserve at least 20 percent of funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that those interventions respond to students’ social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups (each major racial and ethnic group, children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care).

1. Salary and benefits-Instructional hourly rate stipends for extending learning (avg. instructional hourly rate @ $30/hr) Estimated 75 teachers x 30 hrs x $30/hr (Anderson Elem, Old Town Elem, Ruth Rains Middle) Sessions are typically 1.5 hrs per day for 3 days a week for six weeks with an additional 30 min. each week for planning.
2. Professional and Technical Services: Data-Informed Support (contracted through NEFEC) to assist in analyzing data to improve school and student outcomes for all district schools. Estimated @ $1000/visit. 25 visits for remaining 21-22 school year and 50 visits per year for 22-23 and 23-24 school years.
3. Other Certified Personnel: 4 elementary interventionists (AES 1 ELA/1 Math; OTE 1 ELA/1 Math) Estimated at $43,000 plus benefits per teacher)
4. Salary and benefits - Teacher on special assignment at Kinder Cub School (charter) to assist in student/teacher data review to aid in data driven decisions for intervention and curriculum choices, review lesson plans to ensure standards and student needs are addressed, participate in classroom walk-throughs, provide staff support and professional development for instructional programs for the 22-23 and 23-24 school years. (1.0 FTE)
5. Salary and benefits necessary to maintain continuity of services in LEA and continuing to employ existing staff of LEA. (estimated 20 teachers for the 22-23 and 23-24 school year.)
6. Salary and benefits necessary to maintain continuity of services in Kinder Cub School (charter) and continuing to employ existing staff of LEA. (1 teacher for the 22-23 school year.)

**Activity 2** (**A**) **Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.**

1. Salary and benefits- 4 paraprofessionals (one at each school) to assist in providing supplemental instruction and interventions based on student academic needs for the 22-23 and 23-24 school years. (Anderson Elem 1.0 FTE; Old Town Elem 1.0 FTE; Ruth Rains Middle 1.0 FTE, and Dixie County High School 1.0 FTE)
2. Classroom Teacher: Stipends and benefits for pre- and post-planning PD. Estimated 4 days in June and 4 days in July (Summer 2022, 2023, and 2024). Approximately 80 teachers x 6 hrs x 24 days $35/hr
3. Supplies: general consumable supplies as needed or professional development activities (chart paper, posters, markers, sticky notes) $5000 per school per year ( 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24) – AES, OTE, RRMS, DCHS, KCS (charter)
4. Professional and Technical Service: PD for implementation of BEST ELA Standards (2 days @ $3000/day) Four 3 hr trainings over 2 days on Rdg/ELA BEST standards divided into K-2, 3-5, 6-7, and 8-12.
5. Supplies: BEST ELA Implementation Guide for district–wide digital instructional use in conjunction with BEST Standards PD

**Activity 2** (B) **Any activity authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2** (C) **Any activity authorized by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2** (D) **Any activity authorized by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2** (E) **Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2** (F) **Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.**

1. Other Certified Personnel: Salary and benefits for a teacher on special assignment at Dixie County High School to monitor progress of all at-risk and ESE students in regards to graduation and work with teachers who provide support to students who require MTSS in reading to meet graduation requirements for the 22-23 and 23-24 school years. (0.50 FTE)
2. Other Certified Personnel: Additional hours (up to 20 hrs/month) for a bilingual school counselor to monitor the progress of our ELL students as they continue to build listening, speaking, and reading skills through Fast ForWord, a computerized English development program. January – May 2022; 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years.

**Activity 2** (G) **Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.**

Due to the increase in instructional technology, our district is taking measures to increase the robustness of our technology infrastructure and working to provide a more stable and safe online experience for all stakeholders.

1. Integrated school safety software to screen visitors and track volunteers to allow safe options for parents and volunteers to return to campuses. (Raptor Technologies)
2. Tech-related Rentals: Annual subscription for endpoint protection estimated at $4000/year for 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24 school years (300 endpoint users x 10.73 + annual host support cost $514.80)
3. Professional and Technical Services: Monthly cybersecurity/IT support 15hrs/month for 6 months @ $215/hr
4. Capitalized Computer Hardware and Tech-related Infrastructure: Server est. $11,000
5. Professional and Technical Services: Vmware production support and subscription service: 1 yr service; 6 incidents – 24 x 7 x 30 min – onsite technical (or 2 years)
6. Annual Software License: Veeam Backup and replication standard for virtual machines
7. Capitalized Software: Vmware vSphere 3 hosts with 2 processors per host
8. Tech-related Rentals: Managed Methods Cloud Security for staff and students 3-year estimate @ $9100/year
9. Annual Software License: Manage Engine Desktop and ADAudit installation and annual maintenance and support (one time installation and annual maintenance/support fees)
10. Professional and Technical Services: KnowBe4 – user security awareness training for all district staff
11. Professional and Technical Services: Webfilter – cloud managed filter and reporter
12. Other Purchased Services: Website development, support, and hosting
13. Other Materials and Supplies: Digitize LEA files in efforts to maximize remote working situations (Image Storehouse) (est. $50,000)
14. Other Purchased Services: Cybersecurity services for 21-22 SY. Services will be provided @ $250/hr for 5 min. hrs each month for 8 months or once 40 hrs is provided.

**Activity 2** (H) **Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2** (I) **Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2** **(J**) **Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State,**

**and local requirements.**

1. Tech-related communications: WiFi access at community center for student usage (12 months est. @ $450/month)

**Activity 2(K) Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and children with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.**

1. Noncapitalized Computer Hardware: 300 student chrome books for replacement and/or remote learning as needed. Estimated @ $250 includes chrome book and management license. (total $75,000)
2. Noncapitalized Computer Hardware: 25 teacher laptops for classroom instructional use @ est. $700 each – (total $17,500)
3. Annual Software License: Microsoft license agreement for 21-22, 22-23 and 23-24 school years est. @ $13,000/year
4. Tech-related Rentals: LEA-wide Kami license to provide seamless classroom and/or remote learning through editable PDF functions
5. Annual Software License: Canvas cloud subscription for RRMS and DCHS for 1 year (23-24 SY) 1250 users @ $7.50

**Activity 2(L) Providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools.**

1. Professional and Technical Services: Summer mental health hours provided by Kim Carpenter-Herring, L.C.S.W.
2. Periodicals: Scholastic News “Choices” for RRMS health classes for 22-23 and 23-24 school years (est. 220 @ $10 + s/h per year)

**Activity 2(M) Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2(N) Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, of the local educational agency, including by—**

**(i) administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students’ academic progress and assist educators in meeting students’ academic needs, including through differentiating instruction;**

**(ii) implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students;**

**(iii) providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and**

**(iv) tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.**

1. Provide a district teacher on special assignment to serve as the Truancy Coordinator to monitor absenteeism for potential truant patterns for the 22-23 and 23-24 school years. (0.25 FTE)
2. Textbooks: Saxon Phonics kits for supplemental instruction for Anderson Elementary K-2 (initial kits year 22-23 SY and consumable refills for 23-24 SY
3. Supplies: Learning Dynamics - 4 weeks to Read PK&K Rdg/math curriculum 150 st. rdg kits @ $39 each and 150 st. math kits @ $29 each

**Activity 2(O) School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.**

[Begin text here.]

**Activity 2(P) Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and nonmechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.**

1. Repairs and Maintenance: Air filters for LEA for 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24 school years. Est. $10,000/year.
2. Repairs and Maintenance: Air filters for Kinder Cub School (charter) est. @ Six 3pks @ $80 each
3. Non-capitalized Replacements: Replacing HVAC units at schools during the 20-21 and 21-22 school years to improve air quality. 15 units estimated at $2500/each

**Activity 2(Q) Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent possible and not inconsistent with state law, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.**

1. Supplies: General/consumable cleaning and sanitation supplies and PPE for all schools to maintain appropriate cleaning measures during the 22-23 and 23-24 school years.
2. Other Materials and Supplies: Water, pumps, and cups for schools since limited water fountain usage due to Covid-19 for 22-23 and 23-24 school years.

**Activity 2(R) Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency.**

1. Other Support Personnel: Supplement including benefits - personnel payment for pandemic disaster relief and closing the gap bonus (union negotiated for employees who did not receive the initial $1000 direct from state in summer of 2022 and any additional bonuses related to pandemic disaster relief). Charter supplements will be approved by their board. (12 staff members for charter)
2. Other Support Personnel: Salary and benefits for 4 custodial positions (one at each school) for the 22-23 and 23-24 school years to continue enhanced cleaning measures and protocols.
3. Other Support Personnel: Salary and benefits a full-time custodian at Kinder Cub School (charter) for the 22-23 and 23-24 school years to continue enhanced cleaning measures and protocols.
4. Other Certified Personnel: Salary and benefits for one school counselor at Dixie County High School for the 22-23 and 23-24 school years due to increased student population since adding 8th grade to campus (1.0 FTE)
5. Other Certified Personnel: additional summer hours at hourly rate for teacher on special assignment at Kinder Cub School (charter) Estimated at hourly rate for 35 hrs/week for 6 weeks for 3 summers (2022, 2023, and 2024)
6. Other Support Personnel: additional summer hours at hourly rate for 4 custodians (one at each school-Anderson Elem, Old Town Elem, Ruth Rains Middle, Dixie County High School) Estimated at hourly rate for 35 hrs/week for 6 weeks for 3 summers (2022, 2023, and 2024) to continue enhanced cleaning measures and protocols.
7. Other Support Personnel: additional summer hours at hourly rate for custodian at Kinder Cub School charter. Estimated at hourly rate for 35 hrs/week for 6 weeks for 3 summers (2022, 2023, and 2024)
8. Tech-related Rentals: Virtual instruction program as needed for remote learning (for 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24 school years) to continue enhanced cleaning measures and protocols.
9. Other Personal Services: Subs for paras in regular classroom setting
10. Other Personal Services: Subs for paras when attending professional development
11. Annual Software License: Track Application and related support services and software (a professional learning management system provides course registration, tracking of completed courses, and monitoring by both teacher and appropriate administrators.
12. Professional and Technical Services: professional development training and analysis sessions with Glimpse, an academic resource management program. Initial PD plus 3 mid-year sessions for program analysis (initial PD-1 @ $1500 and 6 mid-year sessions @ $2000 each – 3 per school year)
13. Annual Software License: Glimpse software-an academic resource management program designed to correlate investments with goals and expected outcomes to generate eROI analysis reports.(for the 22-23 and 23-24 school year)

**Activity 2 (S) Administration. LEAs may take reasonable and necessary administrative costs, to include direct and indirect costs. Indirect costs may be taken up to the negotiated, unrestricted indirect cost rate. However, to ensure that the total administrative costs are reasonable, the total direct and indirect costs may not exceed five percent (5%) of the LEA’s total award.**

1. Dues and Fees: Participation in CaresNet membership with Dr. Cheryl Sattler - $8000
2. Miscellaneous: Indirect Cost @ 6.2% (KCS portion $14,797.60)

**Part II: Ensuring Effectiveness of Interventions**

**Please describe how the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, and migratory students.** **In your response, please include a description of interventions and strategies that are aligned to the LEA’s data (disaggregated by subgroup), and describe how the LEA will measure the effectiveness of the selected interventions.**

* Extended learning opportunities: Grades K-7 after school sessions in the fall incorporating evidence-based strategies into lessons to remediate learning loss due to Covid-19.
* Elementary ELA and Math Interventionists: will pull groups based on progress monitoring data and incorporate evidence-based strategies into lessons through interventions.
* Additional paraprofessional support: paras deliver Tier II small group, evidence-based interventions under teacher guidance.
* Professional Development: PD for instructional staff focusing on remediating learning loss through targeted, evidence-based interventions. Focus on early literacy and improving academic achievement of sub-groups.
* Pre- and Post-planning PD: Focus on implementation of B.E.S.T. ELA and Math standards using data (FSA/iReady, STAR, etc.) to develop curriculum maps.
* At-risk/ESE Teacher on Special Assignment: Works with teachers and paras who serve ESE and at-risk students to ensure students receive appropriate supports and accommodations.
* ELL support: Bilingual counselor works with ELL students and families to provide support as needed.
* Mental Health Support: Additional mental health counseling provided through the summer months as needed by licensed clinical social workers and licensed mental health counselors. (Mental health hours during the school year are funded with Mental Health allocation)
* Digital Curriculum Resources: Through the use of Kami, Canvas, and Microsoft license agreement, our district is able to provide continuous, synchronous and asynchronous instruction even in the event of potential school closures or quarantines.
* Virtual Instruction: Partner with NEFEC to provide virtual instruction through My District Virtual School (MDVS) for students who are unable to return to brick and mortar due to extenuating health circumstances.
* Digital Devices: The district will continue to provide chrome books at 1:1 ratio for student devices. The 1:1 ratio allows students to receive continuous instruction in the event of school closures or potential quarantines.
* Truancy Coordinator: Establishing a district truancy coordinator allows the district to more closely monitor student absenteeism for potential truant patterns as students return to in-person instruction.
* Foundational Curriculum Resources: The district will provide foundational curriculum resources in efforts to remediate learning loss targeting foundational reading skills (PK – 2).
* Additional school counselor at DCHS: Work with students to provide appropriate accommodations as needed through IEPs and 504s.

The LEA will measure the effectiveness of selected interventions through progress monitoring data (iReady and STAR) and most recent FSA data.

**Part III LEA Plan for Safe Return of In-Person Instruction**

Each LEA developed and made publicly available on the LEA’s website a plan for the safe return of in-person learning in the Fall of 2020. This was before the enactment of the ARP Act. This plan must be updated to address the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195. The Interim Final Rule “does not mandate that an LEA adopt the CDC guidance, but only requires that the LEA describe in its plan the extent to which it has adopted the key prevention and mitigation strategies identified in the guidance.” 88 FR at 21200. Any updated LEA plan must be consistent with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency order, or any agency regulation or rule. Note specifically that LEA policies must comply with section 381.00316, Florida Statutes, and that any policies implemented after August 9, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21 -12, F.A.C., and any policies implemented after September 22, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21-15, F.A.C.

Each LEA must seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account prior to submission of the final plan to the Department within 60 days of the award. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this updated plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

By checking this box, the LEA acknowledges the requirement that each LEA shall update its Plan for Safe Return of In-Person Instruction to reflect the requirements stated above, shall seek public comment on the updated plan and take such comments into account prior to the submission of the final plan to the Department within 60 days of the award. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this updated plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

**Part IV: Assurances**

**The district must agree to ALL of the assurances by checking the corresponding boxes.**

**Assurance 1: LEA Periodic Plan Update with Public Comment.**  As required in the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195, the LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months, review and as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account. If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations. Significantly, the Interim Final Rule “does not mandate that an LEA adopt the CDC guidance, but only requires that the LEA describe in its plan the extent to which it has adopted the key prevention and mitigation strategies identified in the guidance.” 88 FR at 21200. Any updated LEA plan must be consistent with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency order, or any agency regulation or rule. Specifically, LEA policies must comply with section 381.00316, Florida Statutes, and any policies implemented after August 9, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21 -12, F.A.C., and any policies implemented after September 22, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21-15, F.A.C.

**Assurance 2: Continue progress monitoring and interventions.** The district agrees to provide robust progress monitoring and requisite interventions must be extended to all students with tiered support for students who are performing below grade level and are not making adequate progress. Students who are receiving instruction through innovative teaching methods must transition to another teaching method if they fail to make adequate progress. The district agrees to provide monthly progress monitoring reports to parent/guardians for students identified as performing below grade level and/or demonstrating decline on the district’s progress monitoring system.

**Assurance 3: Allowable Uses of Funds.** The LEA will use funds for activities allowable under section 2001(e) of the CRRSA Act.

**Assurance 4: Maintenance of Equity.** The LEA will comply with all requirements relating to Maintenance of Equity, in accordance with section 2004(c) of the ARP Act.

**Assurance 5: Reporting.** The LEA will comply with all reporting requirements, and submit required reports to the Florida Department of Education at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the department may subsequently require.

**Assurance 6: Audits, Inspections or Examinations.** The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such funds by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals available for interview and examination, upon the request of (i) the Florida Department of Education, the Florida Auditor General; (ii) the Department and/or its Inspector General; or (iii) any other federal or state agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority.

**Acknowledgement**

Local Educational Agency Chief Executive Officer or Authorized Representative

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| **Name and title of person responsible for completion and submission** |
| Mike Thomas |
| **Contact information: email, phone number** |
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| **Superintendent signature (or authorized representative)** |
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