



Presentation to the Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education

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The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Major Provisions



Under ESSA, states are still required to:

- Have challenging academic standards
- Have statewide assessments with 95% participation
- Have teacher equity plans
- Set goals for student performance

NCSL-NGA plan: what states asked for and got in ESSA

- State determined accountability systems
- Continued disaggregation of student data
- Incorporation of state-designed turnaround strategies for low-performing schools
- Promotion of the alignment of K-12 standards with higher education and career preparation goals
- Possibilities for innovation in assessment design

NCSL-NGA plan: what states asked for and got in ESSA (continued)

- Elimination of the “highly qualified teacher” and “adequate yearly progress” metrics
- Prohibition on federal approval or incentivization of state standards or plans
- Prohibition on use of additional/new federal requirements as a condition of waiver approval

Even more data!

- Disaggregated data on all of the indicators
- Includes not just the subgroups for which you have goals, but
 - Migrant status
 - Homeless status
 - Status as a child in foster care
 - Student with a parent who is active duty Armed Forces
- Postsecondary enrollment “where available” (i.e. if state is routinely reporting or can routinely obtain)
- Information on per pupil expenditures

Three main policy buckets

- Accountability (state plan and state indicator system)
- Assessments
- Turning Around Low Performing Schools

Assessment flexibility under ESSA

- States can use a single summative assessment or use assessments given throughout the school year and calculate a summative score.
- Assessments should involve multiple measures, including measures of higher-order thinking skills that may be delivered in the form of portfolios, projects or extended performance tasks.
- States can take advantage of options such as allowing the use of a nationally recognized high school academic assessments and allowing 8th grade students in advanced math courses to substitute an end of course exam for the statewide test.

Assessment flexibility under ESSA (continued)

- Set aside of state assessment funding can be used for an audit of all assessments
- States can apply for the Innovative Assessment pilot to allow LEAs to experiment with different kind of tests.

State accountability systems

- Required indicators
 - Academic Achievement—measured by proficiency on annual assessments; for high schools states may also include a student growth measure
 - Academic Progress—for elementary and secondary schools that aren't high schools
 - Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency
 - Graduation Rate—for high schools
 - School Quality or Student Success
- Academic measures must weigh more heavily than other indicators; test participation must be incorporated into the accountability system

Turnaround strategies

NCLB

- School Improvement Grants and Race to the Top included a federal cascade of interventions

ESSA

- States must identify schools as low-performing if they are in the bottom 5%; if they are a high school failing to graduate 1/3 or more of students, or have a consistently underperforming subgroup
- Identification happens every three years.
- LEAs use strategies (state-approved; evidence based) to improve performance. Every four years, if there has not been improvement, the state is expected to intervene.

The Every Student Succeeds Act:
**Timelines and Next
Steps**



Implementation timeline

- ESEA flexibility waivers ended August 1
- Federal regulatory process ongoing
- Stakeholder engagement ongoing
- State plan submission windows proposed: March 6 & July 5, 2017
- FULL IMPLEMENTATION IN THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

Federal regulatory action

- Final regulations released on teacher preparation
- Proposed regulations on assessments, innovative assessment pilot at OMB for final review
- Regulations on supplement, not supplant out for public comment
- Guidance released on provisions regarding: foster children; homeless children and youth; Title III (English learners); Title II (supporting teachers); well-rounded education; Student Success and Academic Enrichment grants; tribal consultation

Who is a stakeholder?

- ✓ Governor
- ✓ state legislators
- ✓ state board members
- ✓ LEAs, including rural LEAs
- ✓ representatives of Indian tribes
- ✓ teachers, principals, other school leaders and personnel
- ✓ charter school leaders
- ✓ parents and families
- ✓ community based organizations
- ✓ civil rights organizations
- ✓ institutions of higher education
- ✓ employers
- ✓ the public

Stakeholder engagement: What does it look like?

- Statute: must be meaningful and timely
- Must happen before plan is submitted
- Many states have a mix of public forums, working groups and committees, information online
- Some state draft plans are already being posted for review, or should be published soon

Consolidated state plan can include:

- Title 1 Part A
- Title 1 Part C (migratory children)
- Title 1 Part D Prevention and Intervention for children and youth who are neglected, delinquent or at-risk
- Title II Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
- Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants
- Title IV Part B 21st Century Community Learning Center
- Title V, Subpart 2 Rural and Low-Income School Programs
- May also include State Assessments grants and McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants

Think broadly... ESSA reauthorizes and interacts with many other programs

- ESSA reauthorizes programs for
 - English language learners
 - Migrant children
 - Homeless Children and Youth (McKinney-Vento)
 - Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native students
 - Teachers and school leaders
 - Preschool
 - Funds impact aid, charter schools, magnet schools, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and literacy programs.
- Interacts with the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Perkins, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Education Sciences Reform Act

A cherry blossom moment...



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NCSL ESSA page: <http://www.ncsl.org/ESSA>

NCSL College and Career Readiness Legislative Tracking:
<http://www.ccrslegislation.info>

