





The Every Student Succeeds Act: A State Primer

Lee Posey State-Federal Relations Division National Conference of State Legislatures

The Big News: the Elementary and Secondary Education Act finally reauthorized!

- Last reauthorized as No Child Left Behind (NCLB) in 2002
- Problems with NCLB from a state perspective
 - Shifted a great deal of control to the federal government
 - Mandated 100% proficiency by 2014, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) metric, defined "highly qualified teachers"
 - States needed waivers to get out from under NCLB provisions; those came with their own requirements

Meet ESSA, the Every Student Succeeds Act

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

"...the largest devolution of federal control to the states in a quarter century."



So...what's in the bill for states?

- Clear directive for stakeholder involvement
- Prohibitions on Secretarial/federal authority
- New approach for accountability
 - -No more AYP!

Implementation Timeline

- ESEA flexibility waivers end as of 8/1/2016
- New state plans are developed in the 2016-2017 school year
- Full implementation in the 2017-2018 school year
- Guidance and regulation by the U.S. Department of Education—ongoing process

State Accountability Systems

- Required indicators
 - Academic achievement as measured by proficiency on annual assessments
 - Another measure of academic achievement
 - Progress of English Language Learners
 - A measure of school quality and student success
 - For high schools, graduation rates
- academic measures must weigh more heavily than the other indicators
- test participation must also be part of the accountability system.

Assessmentsnew role, some flexibility

NCLB Assessment Schedule Remains

Math; Reading
Annually grades 3-8
Once in grades 9-12

Science once in each grade span: 3-5, 6-9, 10-12

- 95% participation and 1% cap on alternative assessments
- Test are less "high stakes"
- Can access funding to do a audit of assessments
- New flexibility in assessment design
 - Use of nationally recognized high school assessment
 - Innovative assessment flexibility pilot

Focus on all students

- States must continue to disaggregate data by student subgroup at the state, LEA, and school level.
- State accountability systems must identify schools in which a subgroup of students is consistently underperforming for targeted support and improvement. Those subgroups are:
 - Economically disadvantaged students
 - Students from major racial and ethnic groups
 - Children with disabilities
 - English learners

Which schools require intervention?

- Schools that are in the bottom five percent
- Any high school failing to graduate 1/3 or more of their students
- Any school in which a subgroup of students is consistently underperforming

Interventions are designed by schools, LEAs, states—NOT the federal government

What federal support do states have for school and student support?

- Increased amount of Title 1 funding (7%) for school improvement (instead of the NCLB School Improvement Grants)
- New Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

New Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Grants

- Three Broad Purposes
 - Provide all students with access to a well-rounded education;
 - Improve school conditions for student learning; and
 - Improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students

Other programs in ESSA

- Support for teachers and school leaders (Title II)
- Education of Migrant Children
- Education of Neglected, Homeless, or Delinquent Youth
- Language instruction for English Language Learners and Immigrant Students
- Impact Aid
- Rural Education

Other programs in ESSA (continued)

- Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native Education programs
- McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth
- 21st Century Schools/Promise
 Neighborhoods/Community Learning Centers
- Magnet Schools
- Charter Schools

Early Education Provisions

- Preschool Development Grants
- Pre-K information in Title I plans
- Literacy grants allowable use
- Other uses: training educators and providers; English language learners, preschool programs at charter schools

QUESTIONS?

Lee Posey Federal Affairs Counsel (202) 624-8196 lee.posey@ncsl.org

NCSL ESSA resources:

