

ABC



$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): A Briefing for Alaska

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

The Big News: ESEA REAUTHORIZED

- Last reauthorized as No Child Left Behind in 2002
- Problems with NCLB from a state perspective
 - Shifted a great deal of control to the federal government
 - Mandated 100% proficiency by 2014, contained AYP requirement, defined “highly qualified teachers”
 - States needed waivers to get out from under NCLB requirements
 - Race to the Top grants, waivers tied funding to use of common standards and assessments, federally mandated policies

The Big News: ESEA REAUTHORIZED

- House and Senate passed reauthorization bills this summer
- Conference committee adopted conference report 11/19 with only one dissenting vote
- House passage 12/2, 359-64
- Senate passage 12/9, 85-12
- Signed into law 12/10 as P.L. 114-95



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?

- Provision for state legislative involvement
- Prohibitions on Secretarial/federal authority
- New approach for accountability
 - No more AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress)!

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
- Continuing regulation and guidance from the U.S. Department of Education
 - You can ask the Department a question about ESSA at essa.questions@ed.gov
- Funding note: competitive funding for FY 2016 will flow under current law; FY 2017 dollars (2017-2018 school year) will flow through ESSA provisions

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
- States must weigh the academic measures more heavily than the other indicators and will also need to incorporate test participation in their accountability system.

Assessments– new role, some flexibility

NCLB Assessment Schedule Remains

Math & Language Arts/Reading

Annually in grades 3-8

Once in grades 9-12

Science

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

- 95% participation and 1% cap on alternative assessments
- Test are less “high stakes”
- Statement of parental right to opt out
- New flexibility in assessment design
 - Use of nationally recognized high school assessment
 - Innovative assessment flexibility

Provisions Regarding Subgroups of Students

- States must continue to disaggregate data by student subgroup at the state, LEA, and school level.
- State accountability systems must identify any school in which a subgroup of students is consistently underperforming for target 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 $\frac{1}{3}$ or more of their students
- Any school in which a subgroup of students is consistently underperforming

What kind of support do states have for school and student support?

- New Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
- Increased amount of Title 1 funding to be used for school improvement (instead of the NCLB School Improvement Grants)
 - Set aside for school improvement is the greater of 7% of Title I grants to LEAs or the amount of SIG funding for FY 2016 plus 4% of Title I grants.
 - School improvement funds can be sent to LEAs by formula or through a competitive process.

New Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Grants

- 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
- Alaska
 - Estimated to receive \$8,003,000 in FY 2017 (source: FFIS)
 - Amounts to 0.5 percent of total available SSAE funding

Other Title I Issues

- Portability...not in the bill, but there's a weighted student funding pilot that could allow some districts to experiment
- No formula change, but will study
- Accountability provisions for English Language Learners moved to Title I (previously in Title III)

Title II Changes

- Formula for Part A (Supporting Effective Instruction) grants amended
 - Gradual shift from 65% based on share of children in poverty and 35% based on share of children overall
 - To 80% based on share of children in poverty and 20% on share of children overall by FY 2020
- Gradually eliminates hold harmless allotment (by FY 2023)
- Alaska
 - Estimated impact of formula, hold harmless change from FY 2017 to FY 2023
 - Increase of 4.3%
 - From \$10,833,000 in FY 2015 (actual) to \$11,303,000 in FY 2023 (estimated)

Other Programs in ESSA

- 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
- Titles I-IV: dollars can be used on pre-K programs
 - Title I: LEAs can use funding to provide pre-K programs in their communities
 - Title II: Under “state activities,” money can be used for training of directors and providers
 - Title III: Can use funds to provide English language instruction to pre-K students
 - Title IV: Funds for establishing/expanding/replicating high-quality charter schools can be used for pre-K programs

Preschool Development Grants

FUNDING

\$250,000,000

- Competitive
- For a year; can be renewed
- Grants can be used for needs assessments
- Renewal grants can help fund access

- Allow states to develop, update or implement a plan to facilitate collaboration and coordination among existing early childhood care and education programs
- Encourages partnerships
- Maximizes parental choice

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

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

