Overview: Every Student Succeeds Act

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION
TRIBAL CONSULTATION – 2020
Every Student Succeeds Act

Reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to create a long-term, stable federal policy that gives states additional flexibility and encourages innovation, while at the same time holds them accountability for results.
Standards

The Every Student Succeeds Act reinforces state authority over standards, accountability and other key education policies.

It prohibits any U.S. Secretary of Education from requiring states to adopt specific standards or assessments.

The law does require that states align standards with college and career skills.
Assessments

Each state is required to have implemented a set of high-quality student academic assessments in math, reading or language arts in grades 3-8 and once during high school; science assessments in designated grade bands.

States may allow districts to use a national-recognized high school academic assessment in lieu of a state assessment as long as such assessment is aligned to the state’s standards and meet other requirements.
Assessments

States may use computer-adaptive assessments and may measure a student’s academic proficiency above or below grade level and use such scores in the state accountability system.

The law allows, but does not require, states to set a limit on the amount of time devoted to assessment administration for each grade.
Accountability

Each statewide system must “meaningfully differentiate” schools using at least:

- Academic proficiency on state assessments;
- Graduation rates for high school;
- English language proficiency;
- Growth or another statewide academic indicator for K-8 schools;
- Not less than one other state-set non-academic indicator for school quality or student success; and
- 95 percent assessment participation rate benchmark
School Improvement

States must use evidence-based interventions.

Specific school improvement models are no longer required.
School Improvement

Must identify, at least, the following support levels:

Comprehensive Support and Improvement
• Lowest-performing 5 percent of Title I schools on state accountability index;
• High school with <67 percent graduation rates; and
• Schools with underperforming subgroups that do not improve after a state-determined number of years.

Targeted Support and Improvement
• School with consistently underperforming subgroups, as defined by the state.
Teacher and Leader Quality

The Every Student Succeeds Act does not require specific educator evaluation measures of methods.

Title II Part A allows state to funds their priorities in attracting, preparing, supporting and retaining effective teachers and leaders to serve high-poverty, minority students.
Teacher and Leader Quality

ESSA authorizes new allowable federal funding for states to develop and implement:

- Teacher and School Leader Academies;
- Activities to support principals (new 3 percent Title II set-aside);
- Educator training on the use of technology and data privacy
- Other educator workforce priorities
Key Decision Points

Assessments – Adaptive testing, nationally-recognized high school assessments and innovative pilot

Accountability – Nonacademic report card measure, enhanced English learners accountability and subgroup accountability

Educator Effectiveness – Independent academies
Key Decision Points

School Improvement – Definition of struggling school (tiered identification and support), organizational structure for improvement, wraparound services and definition of evidence-based

Title Funds – Schoolwide threshold, distribution of school improvement dollars, set asides, competitive grants

Special populations – Homeless, foster care system, military dependent, etc.
BIE’s Tentative Transition Timeline

- May 2020 – Tribal Consultation
- June 2020 – Review stakeholder comments
- July 2020 – Develop BIE Agency Plan based on Tribal Consultation
- August 2020 – New Agency Plan in compliance with ESSA will go into effect for SY 2020-2021

Communications – Website, email updates, webinars, meetings
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