



#ESTAMOSLISTOS

EVERY STUDENT

SUCCEEDS ACT OF

2015

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WHAT IS ESSA?

- The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 was signed into law by President Obama.
- Its purpose is to raise achievement rates of low-income, African American, Latino, Asian American, Native American, students with disabilities and those who speak English as a second language.
- Gives students a significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high quality education.

***ESSA will not be put into place until the 2017- 2018 school year ***

HOW?

★ Accountability

★ Academic Standards

★ English Language Proficiency

★ Assessments

★ Parent Engagement



ACCOUNTABILITY

What are accountability systems?

- Accountability systems are a set of policies that states create in order to measure how schools are performing. Accountability systems are used to identify schools that need additional support and improvement for all students or certain groups who are not making academic progress.
- States must set goals every year to increase performance in five different areas:
 - (1) Student Achievement
 - (2) High School graduation rates
 - (3) From K-8; Individual student growth
 - (4) English Language Proficiency and
 - (5) Another reliable indicator of school quality such as school climate and college readiness
- Goals must be set for all students:
 - (1) Racial/Ethnic groups
 - (2) Students with disabilities
 - (3) English learners
 - (4) Low-income students



***One of the biggest changes under ESSA is that states now have to move beyond test scores when measuring school performance. States now have to also consider factors like social and emotional learning and or school climate ***

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

- States need to adopt challenging standards for all public schools in Math, Reading/ Language Arts, and Science.
- Standards must help students prepare for college and work after high school.
- Must be clear and consistent for teachers, students and parents to understand what the student needs to learn.
- The federal government cannot tell states what standards should be adopted, even with the common core.
- States must also show that they have adopted standards for English- Language Proficiency that align with state English Learner academic standards.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

- States must perform annual assessments to measure English Learners' progress toward English Language Proficiency.
- States are able to excuse English Learner from taking their reading/language art test during their first year.
- English Learners are required to take the test after their first year.



*** This makes sure that states are held accountable for EL proficiency for the first time along with schools paying more attention to English Learners ***

ASSESSMENTS

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- Statewide annual assessments measure students progress towards state standards and college readiness.
- Assessments help educators compare student performance across states.
- Assessments give parents and the public an idea on how schools are doing to improve learning for all groups of students.
- School districts are able to choose nationally recognize assessments (SAT or ACT) in lieu of the statewide high school assessment. The assessment however must aligned with state standards
- States must test all students in math and language arts :
 - Annually grades 3 through 8
 - Once in high school
- States must test all students in Science:
 - Once between grades 3 through 5
 - Once between grades 6 through 9
 - Once between grades 10 through 12
- Students who have cognitive disabilities can take an alternative test that is aligned with alternative achievement standards.



PARENT ENGAGEMENT

- Districts in each state MUST reserve one percent of their Title I funds to create parent and family engagement activities.
- 90 percent of Title I money is set aside to be used for schools with high needs.
- Under Parent and Family Engagement Provisions parents must be included in discussions and decisions regarding how money will be use.
 - For example: annual meetings, convenient time, where all parents of low-income students are invited and encouraged to attend.
 - Any letter sent of to parents must be in their preferred language.
- States must ensure effective involvement of parents, community and school to improve student academic achievement by:
 - Providing parents with assistance in understand state's academic standards, assessments and the requirements of Title I
 - Empathizes to school personnel the importance of parent involvement
 - Integrating parent engagement strategies with other state and federal programs

