

# EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

## ESSA Implementation Resources for Educators



## Funding for Social-Emotional Learning in ESSA

The list below contains the specific programs (title and section numbers) for which ESSA funds may, potentially, be spent to support social-emotional learning (SEL) activities. For those programs in existence under No Child Left Behind (NCLB), funding levels are provided for FY 2016. In some cases, the purpose of the title, part, or section provides the justification for allowable uses; in others, the language of the statute elaborates on specific activities or personnel expenditures for which funding under that section may be used to support SEL.

### Title I

Part A—Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (LEA) (FY 2016: \$14.9 billion)

1. Sec. 1114, Schoolwide Programs: Activities that may be supported include
  - a. Counseling, school-based mental health programs, specialized instructional support services, mentoring services, and other strategies to improve students' skills outside the academic subject areas.
  - b. Implementation of a schoolwide tiered model to prevent and address problem behavior and early intervention services, coordinated with similar activities and services carried out under IDEA.
2. Sec. 1115, Targeted Assistance Schools: Activities that may be supported include
  - a. A schoolwide tiered model to prevent and address behavior problems and early intervention services, coordinated with similar activities and services carried out under IDEA.
  - b. Violence prevention programs.
  - c. Integrated student supports.
  - d. Professional development necessary to assist teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, other staff, and parents in identifying and meeting the comprehensive needs of eligible children.

Part C—Education of Migratory Children (FY 2016: \$364 million)

1. Sec. 1301, Program Purposes: Activities that may be supported include
  - a. Helping these students overcome educational disruption, cultural and language barriers, social isolation, various health-related problems, and other factors that inhibit their ability to succeed in school.

Part D—Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk (FY 2016: \$47.6 million)

1. Sec. 1401, Purpose and Program Authorization: Purposes include
  - a. Preventing at-risk youth from dropping out of school and providing dropouts, as well as children and youth returning from correctional facilities or institutions for neglected or delinquent children and youth, with a support system to ensure their continued education and the involvement of their families and communities.
2. Sec. 1414, State Plan and State Agency Applications: Covered activities include
  - a. Professional development for teachers and staff.
  - b. Working to align with students' individualized education plans.
  - c. Services and interventions for youth that have come into contact with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems designed to keep such youth in school.

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3. Sec. 1416, Institution-Wide Projects: Institution-wide projects may include
  - a. Specialized instructional support services.
4. Sec. 1423, Local Educational Agency Applications: LEA programs may include
  - a. Transition services for children returning from correctional facilities.
  - b. Dropout prevention programs that serve at-risk children and youth.
  - c. Coordination of health and social services for such children, including day care, drug and alcohol counseling, and mental health services.
5. Sec. 1425, Program Requirements for Correctional Facilities Receiving Funds Under this Section: Requirements may include
  - a. Transition assistance to help the child or youth stay in school, including coordination of services for the family, counseling, and assistance in accessing drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs.
  - b. Training for correctional facility staff.

## Title II

Part A—Supporting Effective Instruction (allocated by formula to states) (FY2016: \$2.35 billion)

1. Sec. 2101, Formula Grants to States: State activities include
  - a. Professional development activities such as recruiting and retaining teachers and school leaders who are effective in improving student academic achievement.
  - b. Training for all school personnel in preventing and recognizing child sexual abuse.
  - c. Preparing educators to help students transition to elementary school, including issues related to school readiness.
2. Sec. 2103, Local Uses of Funds: LEA activities include
  - a. Recruitment, hiring, and retention activities for educators including paraprofessionals.
  - b. Professional development that helps all students develop the skills essential for learning readiness and academic success.
  - c. Developing programs and activities that increase the ability of teachers to effectively teach children with disabilities, including children with significant cognitive disabilities and English learners, which may include the use of multitier systems of support and positive behavioral intervention and supports.
  - d. In-service training for school personnel in
    - i. The techniques and supports needed to help educators understand when and how to refer students affected by trauma or students with or at risk of mental illness.
    - ii. Forming partnerships between school-based mental health programs and public or private mental health organizations.
    - iii. Addressing issues related to school conditions for student learning, such as safety, peer interaction, drug and alcohol abuse, and chronic absenteeism.

## Title IV

Part A—Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grants. (New in FY 2017, authorized at \$1.65 billion)

1. Sec. 4101, Purpose: State activities include
  - a. Supporting LEAs in offering a well-rounded education and fostering safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free environments.
  - b. Helping LEAs implement mental health awareness training programs.
  - c. Supporting LEAs in expanding access to or coordinate resources for school-based counseling and mental health programs, such as through school-based mental health services partnership programs.

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- d. Disseminating best practices and evaluating program outcomes relating to any LEA activities to promote student safety and violence prevention.
- 2. Sec. 4107, Activities to Support Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities (20% of total Title IV LEA allocation): Activities include
  - a. Programs and activities that use music and the arts as tools to support student success through the promotion of constructive student engagement, problem solving, and conflict resolution.
  - b. Other programs and activities to support student access to and success in a variety of well-rounded education experiences.
- 3. Sec. 4108, Activities to Support Safe and Healthy Students (20% of total Title IV LEA allocation): Activities include
  - a. Drug and violence prevention activities and programs that are evidence based.
  - b. School-based mental health services, including early identification of mental health symptoms, drug use, and violence as well as appropriate referrals to direct individual or group counseling services.
  - c. Programs that help prevent bullying and harassment.
  - d. Programs or activities that improve instructional practices for developing relationship-building skills, such as effective communication, and improve safety through the recognition and prevention of coercion, violence, or abuse.
  - e. Mentoring and school counseling for all students, including children who are at risk of academic failure, dropping out of school, involvement in criminal or delinquent activities, or drug use and abuse.
  - f. Establishing or improving school dropout and reentry programs.
  - g. Establishing learning environments and enhancing students' effective learning skills that are essential for school readiness and academic success, such as by providing integrated systems of student and family supports.
  - h. Training for school personnel, including specialized instructional support personnel in suicide prevention, trauma-informed practices, crisis management, conflict resolution, and school-based violence prevention.
  - i. Designing and implementing a locally tailored plan to reduce exclusionary discipline practices.
  - j. Implementing schoolwide positive behavioral interventions and supports, including coordination with similar activities carried out under IDEA.

## Part B—21st Century Community Learning Centers (FY 2016: \$1.16 billion)

- 1. Sec. 4205, Local Activities: Local activities include
  - a. Academic enrichment learning programs, mentoring programs, remedial education activities, and tutoring services.
  - b. Well-rounded education activities.
  - c. Services for students with disabilities.
  - d. Programs that provide assistance to students who have been truant, suspended, or expelled to allow the students to improve their academic achievement.
  - e. Drug and violence prevention programs and counseling programs.

## Title V

### Part B—Rural Education Initiative (FY 2016: \$175.8 million)

- 1. Sec. 5211, Use of Applicable Funding
  - a. LEAs that receive funds under this part may use those funds for any activities authorized under Title I, Part A; Title II, Part A; Title III; and Title IV, Part A or B.