The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* and Supporting a Well-Rounded Education:

Title IV, Part A
Student Support and Academic Enrichment

What's in this document?

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What Is the Purpose of Title IV, Part A (Title IV-A)?

To foster **safe, healthy, supportive, and drug free environments** that support student academic achievement

To provide all students with a **well-rounded education**

To increase access to **personalized, rigorous learning experiences supported by the use of technology** to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students.

Ask a Question or Submit a Comment! The New Jersey Department of Education is seeking input from educators, parents, community members, and other stakeholders. Email essa@doe.state.nj.us if you would like your voice heard on any aspect of this system.

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ESSA What does ESSA Say?

How Can Title IV-A Student Support and Enrichment Grant Funds Be Used?[1]

To Provide a Well-Rounded Education

- College and career guidance and counseling programs
- Accelerated learning programs
- Programs and activities to improve instruction and student engagement across multiple disciplines (e.g. music, STEM, P.E. civics, economics, etc.)
- Programs and activities that promote volunteerism and community involvement

To Improve the Use of and Access to Technology[2]

- Professional learning tools, devices, content, and resources for educators, school leaders, and administrators.
- Technological capacity and infrastructure
- Development of innovative strategies for the delivery of specialized or rigorous academic courses or curricula
- Blended learning projects
- Professional development in the use of technology
- Access and resources to high quality digital learning experiences for students in rural, remote, and underserved areas

To Improve School Conditions for Student Learning

- Drug and violence prevention activities
- School based mental health services and partnership programs that:
  - integrate health/safety practices into school or athletic programs;
  - support a healthy, active lifestyle;
  - help prevent bullying and harassment;
  - improve instructional practices for developing relationship-building skills;
  - provide mentoring and school counseling;
  - establish or improve school dropout and re-entry programs; and/or
  - establish learning environments to enhance students' effective learning skills.
- High quality training for school personnel related to emergency and crisis situations
- Child abuse awareness and prevention programs
- Programming to reduce exclusionary discipline practices in schools
- Designation of a school or district site resource coordinator to support schools and community partnerships

What are the Parameters?

Eligiblity amount	Requirement for School District
Less than $10,000	a school district must either refuse its funds or form a consortium with one or more other school districts, where the school districts' combined funds are equal to or exceed $10,000
$10,000 - $29,999	a school district may spend its funds on any allowable activities
$30,000	a school district must conduct a needs assessment[3] and spend funds for activities in all three distinct areas: well-rounded education, safe and healthy schools, and technology

1. For a full list of the allowable uses, see pages 224 – 230 in *ESSA*.
2. Awardees may not spend more than 15% of funds on devices, equipment, software applications, platforms, digital instructional resources and/or other one-time technology purchases.

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What Does This Mean For New Jersey Districts?

Districts and/or consortia are required to submit an application to the NJDOE to receive their Title IV-A program allocation.[3] **During the design and development of its application, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) must engage in consultation with stakeholders** in the area [section 4106(c)(1)]. Such stakeholders must include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Parents
- Teachers
- Principals
- Students
- School leaders
- Charter school personnel, when applicable

- Specialized instructional
- support personnel
- Indian tribes or tribal organizations, when applicable
- Local government representatives

- Others with relevant and demonstrated expertise
- Community-based organizations

Other Uses: Option to Transfer Funds

Title IV-A funds may be transferred to and used for activities under:

- Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs [Title I-A]
- Supporting Effective Instruction [Title II-A]
- English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement [Title III-A]
- Rural Education [Title V-B]

Other stakeholders to engage might include: members from the business community, health providers, police, social workers, librarians, technology experts, service providers, and faith-based community leaders.

Questions to Consider

- Which stakeholders can help identify local needs and/or root causes? How can they be engaged early and in a meaningful way throughout the process?

- If you come from a district that will have a Title IV-A allocation below $10,000, would you consider forming a consortium with other districts? Which other districts would you consider working with?

- If you come from a district that will have a small Title IV-A allocation, would you consider transferring your Title IV-A funds to a different Title?

- How could you combine Title IV-A funds with local and state resources to maximize impact? Are there programs or initiatives your school district is currently rolling out that these funds could be used to support?

Additional Resources

- Please see US ED's Non-Regulatory Guidance on the Student Support and Enrichment Grants (SSAE) for more information about this grant opportunity, including resources and tools for programming and potential application activities (Appendix A).

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3. LEAs will receive federally allocated funds following ESSA State Plan submission and approval.