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**Every Student Succeeds Act
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2415 EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 that provides Federal funds to help all New Jersey's school children achieve. The purpose of the ESSA is to ensure all students have equitable access to high-quality educational resources and opportunities and to close educational achievement gaps. The Board of Education elects to augment the instructional program of students by projects supported by Federal funds allocated under the ESSA and the district will comply with the requirements of all the programs authorized by the ESSA.

The sending school district may be eligible for several grant programs funded through the ESSA, including, but not limited to, Title I through Title VI. Many of the Titles of the ESSA have several parts and subparts that provide a funding source for specific purposes.

Application Procedure

The sending school district will submit an annual ESSA Consolidated Formula Subgrant Application to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The school districts' applications shall include all information required by the NJDOE and the ESSA for the districts to be considered for funding under the ESSA.

Covered Programs

Formula grants under the ESSA are non-competitive grants that school districts are eligible for based on the make-up of their student bodies. These formula grants for each Title are committed to different purposes and may be used to support different activities and programs.

Title I

The largest federal program supporting elementary and secondary education is Title I. The ESSA strengthens Title I requirements for the State's assessments, accountability system, and support for school improvement. The law also requires minimum qualifications for teachers and paraprofessionals in Title I programs.

The sending school district must use the best available measure for identifying children from low-income families to identify eligible school attendance areas, determine the ranking of each area and to determine allocations as identified in the Title I guidelines and regulations.

The sending school district will offer Title I services to eligible children enrolled in private elementary and secondary schools. The services and benefits will be equitable in comparison to services and benefits for participating public school children.

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The sending school district will provide the New Jersey Department of Education assurances they will provide the maximum coordination between the Title I program, the regular school program, and services provided by other programs for specialized populations. The Title I program will consider the special needs of homeless children, migrant children, children with disabilities and limited English proficient (LEP) children. Title I funds will be reserved so that migrant children who are otherwise eligible to receive Title I services, even if they arrive during the school year, are served.

Types of Title I Programs

The sending school district will offer School-wide or Target Assistance or Public School Choice Title I program.

School-wide Programs

High-poverty schools (a school with at least 40% poverty or any school below 40% poverty with a waiver issued by the New Jersey Department of Education) are eligible to adopt school-wide programs to raise the achievement of low-achieving students by improving instruction throughout the entire school, thus using Title I funds to serve all children in the school. A school-wide program must be established in accordance with the Title I guidelines and regulations and the New Jersey Department of Education.

Target Assistance Program

Schools that are not eligible for (or do not choose to operate) school-wide Title I programs must use Title I funds to provide targeted services to low-achieving students. A Target Assistance program must be established in accordance with the Title I guidelines and regulations and the New Jersey Department of Education.

New Jersey Department of Education Accountability System

The Commission will comply with the accountability system established by the New Jersey Department of Education and outlined in the New Jersey State Plan and approved by the United States Department of Education

Fiscal Responsibility

The Commission will comply with the requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.02 Title I – Fiscal Responsibilities in accordance with the NJDOE and the ESSA

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Staff

The Commission will comply with the staff certification requirements of the ESSA and the NJDOE. In addition, the district will ensure all paraprofessionals meet the requirements as established by the ESSA and as outlined in Policy 4125 – Employment of Support Staff Members.

Parent and Family Engagement ~~Parental Involvement~~

The Commission will comply with the requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.04 – **Title I – District-Wide Parent and Family Engagement ~~Parental Involvement~~ and Policy 2415.50 – Title I - School Parent and Family Engagement as applicable** in accordance with the NJDOE and the ESSA.

Student Surveys, Analysis and/or Evaluations

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) applies to school districts that receive federal funding from the United States Department of Education. The Commission will comply with the requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.05 - Student Surveys, Analysis and/or Evaluations in accordance PPRA.

Unsafe School Choice Option

In the event there is a school under the Commission designated as Persistently Dangerous or in accordance with the Victims of Violent Criminal Offenses as outlined in the ESSA, the Commission will comply with the requirements of Policy 2415.06 – Unsafe School Choice Option in accordance with the NJDOE and the ESSA.

Property

Property acquired through Title I funds for use in public or private schools will be acquired in accordance with the Public School Contracts Law, will be held in title for the local Board of Education, and will not be used for other purposes so long as it is required in the Title I program. Property no longer required for Title I purposes will be used for other, similarly funded projects or disposed of in accordance with State and federal guidelines by the local district which holds title.

Capital Expenses

The sending school district's Superintendent will assure the district abides by New Jersey's Public Contracts Law; consults appropriate private school officials prior to making any decisions regarding capital expenses; ensure funds that are received to cover capital expenses provide equitable Title I services to private school pupils; ensure accounts for any capital funding is separately maintained; assure lease purchase agreements are consistent with applicable statute and

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administrative code. The Commission's Superintendent will provide the same assurances when the Union County Educational Services Commission provides services for the local district.

Post-Award Requirements

The sending school district will maintain all project records for five years following the completion of the activity for which the funds were used. The school district will prepare and submit all reports as required by the State Department of Education in a timely manner. When the Union County Educational Services Commission is the service provider, it will furnish the school district all project records, upon request.

Supplement, Not Supplant

Grant funds provided under Federal programs, including the ESEA of 1965 as amended by the ESSA, shall supplement, not supplant the funds that would, in the absence of such Federal funds, be made available from State and local sources for the education of students participating in programs assisted under the ESEA of 1965 as amended by the ESSA.

Evaluation

The Superintendent will evaluate the ESSA programs as required by the United States and the New Jersey Departments of Education.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Adopted: March 6, 2013

Revised: April 14, 2021

Revised: