

## Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is Federal Law: What does this mean for my child?

- ESSA was signed into law by President Barack Obama on December 10, 2015
- ESSA reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)—previously known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Under ESSA, parents are required to be **“meaningfully consulted”** and involved in the following programs at the school level, district and/or state level:
  - **Title I**—Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies
  - **Title II**—Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High-Quality Teachers, Principals, or Other School Leaders
  - **Title III**—Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
  - **Title IV**—21st Century Schools
  - **Title V**—State Innovation and Local Flexibility
  - **Title VI**—Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native Education
  - **State and Local Report Cards**
  - **School Improvement Plans**

### What does this mean for my child’s classroom instruction?

- ESSA reduces the high-stakes testing associated with No Child Left Behind (NCLB).
- ESSA requires students to have access to a well-rounded education.

### What does this mean for my child’s teacher?

- States can create teacher evaluation systems—if they choose—that best meets the needs of educators and students in their states.
- In New Mexico, the teacher evaluation system is called NMTEACH and you can find more information at <http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/NMTeachIndex.html>.

### What does this mean for my child’s testing requirements?

- Annual assessments in mathematics and reading/language arts in grades 3-8 and once in grades 9-12.
- Science assessment once in grades 3-5, 6-9 and 10-12.
- At least 95% of all students—or of any group of students— must participate in the state assessment.

### What does this mean for my child’s growth and achievement?

- States are required to develop accountability systems that feature multiple measures of student growth and achievement.

### **What does this mean for my child's school accountability system?**

- State accountability systems can include multiple measures of student achievement, but at minimum they must consist of:
  1. Student achievement on annual assessments
  2. Another academic indicator
  3. English language proficiency
  4. At least one additional indicator of school quality or student success
- Additional indicators can include:
  - Student and educator engagement
  - Student access to and completion of advanced course work
  - School climate and safety
  - Attendance
- States can have more than one additional indicator of school quality or student success

### **What does this mean for my child's educational opportunities and supports?**

- States have to provide support to schools that are not meeting the state-determined goals for student and school performance.
- States must include stakeholders, including parents, in the development of their plans to monitor student and school performance.
- There are more opportunities for families to be engaged!

**For more information, visit:**

#### **ESSA in New Mexico**

<http://www.ped.state.nm.us/ped/ESSA.html>

#### **Every Child Succeeds Act: State Local, and Parent Roadmaps**

<http://www.pta.org/essa>

#### **Parent Center for Parent Information and Resources: ESSA**

<http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/essa-reauth/>