

Preparing for the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Early Learning



Stakeholder Engagement in State ESSA plans: ARE Early Childhood Stakeholders Involved and in What Ways?

September 2016 update

Michelle Horowitz

Since the Every Student Succeeds Act was signed into law on December 10, 2015, several states have started making plans for a smooth transition into full implementation, scheduled for early 2017. More than thirty states have announced internal state timelines for developing a state plan and transitioning into ESSA. Some states, such as Alabama, Illinois, and Massachusetts have indicated they will be making public state timelines later on in 2016. For further information and resources on ESSA and Early Learning see our webpage [here](#).

CEELO conducted a review of all 50 states' department of education websites to identify the following:

- State pages devoted to ESSA information
- State timelines for the development of state plans
- Strategies to gather public input and communicate and engage stakeholders
- Specific examples of ways that early childhood stakeholders are involved in state plan development

This information is based on a scan of public information and has not been vetted with state leaders. We expect this information to be continually updated. The purpose of this document is to assist the field in identifying opportunities and best practices to support effective engagement of a broad representative of early childhood stakeholders in ESSA planning and implementation at the state and local level. (Note: Early Childhood Stakeholders are defined as a state/local staff with a role/title in PK- Grade 3.)

In the table below we found:

<http://ceelo.org/essa/>

Contact Us at: info@ceelo.org

- **State Website Page Devoted to ESSA:** *About 33 state Department of Education websites have a dedicated page for ESSA information.*
- **State Timelines for Development of State Plans:** Some states have identified a relatively fast timeline, for example by December 2016 to develop a transition plan; however other states will use SY17 as a planning year, and their Flex or state accountability plan will continue to be in place; in other states they have begun or are about to begin planning for SY18. Given that guidance and regulation is still forthcoming from the US Dept of Ed, a slower pace with lots of public engagement may be the best strategy. The Department has indicated their review of state plans will occur from spring to summer 2017.
- **Strategies to Engage Stakeholders:** *States are using a variety of strategies to engage stakeholders and gather input, for example 13 states have identified an email listserv or address to submit questions or to get further information.* Other strategies include listening sessions, blogs, posting meeting agenda and minutes, and state and national resources related to ESSA. Notable examples include Alaska which has developed a stakeholder engagement framework, CA held a webinar for education stakeholders, CT is hosting webinars for superintendents, and MN and IL held listening tours, MI will host parent and teacher focus groups, and KY is hosting Town Hall meetings around their states.
- **Examples of Early Childhood Engagement:** *(these states are indicated in blue shading) Approximately 15 states involve early childhood stakeholders in some ways, with MN, WA, IL, NH, CO, CA, PA and NV being the best examples to date of substantive roles for early childhood stakeholders in plan development.* Examples include New Hampshire's Early Childhood Advisory Team, including state and local early childhood leaders to design a state plan focused on Early Childhood supports for schools and districts, Kansas, which includes early childhood as a goal in their strategic planning document and plans to do work around best practices and advocate for a universal preschool program. In Colorado, the Office of Early Learning and School Readiness issued a guidance document around how funding through ESSA can be used to further develop early childhood at the school district level. Alabama's Governor appointed Jeana Ross, Secretary of the Department of Early Childhood Education (DECE) to chair the state ESSA committee. MN held a listening tour specifically focused on early learning, PA and NV include staff with early childhood responsibilities in each of their workgroups, and WA has an early childhood education specific workgroup.

CEELO staff will continue to update and analyze data below, in addition to developing other resources to assist states as we learn more about what is needed. (Note: we are keeping track of updates on teacher evaluation requirements for PK-Grade 3 but this column is not complete yet).

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
AL	Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation Committee	Plan due to Gov 12/2016	ESSA Subcommittee Meeting- Early Learning Jeana Ross, Secretary of DECE will chair the ESSA Task Force.	ESSA Subcommittee Meeting- Educator Effectiveness	Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation Committee ESSA Community Engagement Tour Executive Order 16

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
AK	https://education.alaska.gov/akessa/	ESSA State Plan Development Timeline ESSA State Plan Webinar	None	Assessment Participation Requirements	Stakeholder Involvement
AZ	http://www.azed.gov/essa/	ADE ESSA Timeline Flex Waiver in effect until 2016/17 SY	None	Teacher Evaluation Process	2016 We Are Listening Tour ESSAInbox@azed.gov
AR	http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/every-student-succeeds-act-essa	Arkansas Accountability System (ESSA) Timeline	None	None	Community Listening Forum ade.essacomment@arkansas.gov
CA	http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/es/	State Board Update Title 1 transition plan posted May 1. ESSA 2016-17 School Year Transition Plan	None	None	Email listserv for info Update memo to county and districts California ESSA Webinar for Education Stakeholders and Public ESSA@cde.ca.gov
CO	http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/essa	http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/essa old provisions for SY17 New plan SY 18	ESSA and Early Learning http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/essa	none	Communications, Listening tour by region and blogs
CT	http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2683&Q=336396	State Board Approves 5 Year Strategic Plan	None, although mention need to collaborate with Office of Early Childhood	None	Supts Webinar Series (May, June, Sept 2016) Feedback by 6/24/16
DE	http://www.doe.k12.de.us/domain/425	DDOE ESSA State Plan and Timeline of Activities	none	None	Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
DC	http://osse.dc.gov/featured-content/every-student-succeeds-act-essa	DC's New State Education Plan: Meeting the Needs of All Learners through ESSA Jan 2017 to Board for SY2018	none	none	No mention of any public input sessions
FL	http://www.fldoe.org/academics/essa.stml	Every Student Succeeds Act Update and Public Input Plan FDOE Frequently Asked Questions indicates most stays same for SY17	none	none	held a first round of public input from June 21-July 22, 2016
GA	http://www.gadoe.org/Pages/Home.aspx No ESSA page	Timeline	none	none	ESSA Public Hearings
HI	http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/VisionForSuccess/AdvancingEducation/StriveHIPerformanceSystem/Pages/ESSA.aspx	ESSA Impact on New Federal Education Law on Hawai'i Refresh strategic plan due to ED by Jan 2017, for 2017-2020	none	Factsheet ESSA http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/VisionForSuccess/AdvancingEducation/StriveHIPerformanceSystem/Pages/ESSA.aspx#evals	ESSA Town Hall Meetings Supporting Student Success Phase I: Statewide Listening Tour ESSA@notes.k12.hi.us
ID	http://www.sde.idaho.gov/topics/essa/index.html	ESSA Consolidated Plan Progress Report Idaho Timeline for ESSA Consolidated State Plan Development	None	None	ESSA Public Feedback Form

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
IL	http://www.isbe.net/essa/default.htm	ESSA Illinois State Plan Draft #1	ESSA Illinois State Plan Draft #1 The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 Supporting Continued Education Innovation in Illinois	None	Findings from the Illinois State Board of Education Listening Tours for Local Perspectives on the Every Student Succeeds Act March-July Listening Tours July- Sept post plan for public comment essa@isbe.net
IN	http://www.doe.in.gov/essa	ESSA Consultation and Coordination in Indiana	None	None	Every Student Succeeds Act Listening Tour
IA	https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/every-student-succeeds-act	Iowa's Transition Plan for Supplemental Education Services and School Choice Options under No Child Left Behind for 2016-17	None	Webinar on freezing the AYP Requirement	Presentation Slides from Spring 2016 Public Forums- SES and Choice Summary of Comments from Public Forums on SES and Choice essa@iowa.gov
KS	http://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Early-Childhood-Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA	Not identified yet	See Goal 4: Kansas Plan to Ensure Equitable Access to Excellent Educators	See Goal 2: Kansas Plan to Ensure Equitable Access to Excellent Educators	ESSAquestions@ksde.org
KY	http://education.ky.gov/com/Pages/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-%28ESSA%29.aspx	In place by Aug 2017 for SY18	PPT mentions K-3 , not PK		Town Hall meetings through May , includes recordings and minutes List of Email Comments Submitted KyEdListens@education.ky.gov

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
LA	http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/about-us/every-student-succeeds-act-(essa)	ESSA State Plan Development Timeline	Jenna Conway and Nasha Patel, Office of EC attend meetings, provide input	None	Statewide stakeholder engagement sessions planned through August. PPT and Video online ESSA Listening Tour Report
ME	http://www.maine.gov/doe/essa/	None	None	By July 1 2017, all districts must submit a revision to each schoolwide plan for schoolwide annual reviews for 2017-2018 SY http://www.maine.gov/doe/esea/nclb-essa-schoolwide-reviews.docx	ESSA Stakeholder Feedback Form DOE-ESSA@maine.gov
MD	http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/msde/programs/essa/index.html	ESSA Stakeholder Committee Stakeholder engagement March thru Dec 2016, fine tune plan by Feb 2017, submit to Dept in March ESSA Update: Title I	ESSA Update: Title I Mention support of TITLE I for Early Childhood Education	None	Internal and External members includes Assit. Supt. and Spec/EI Minutes of meeting posted here ESSA Stakeholder Committee External Membership
MA	http://www.doe.mass.edu/ No ESSA page	Finalize plan in winter 2016 Implement SY2018 http://www.doe.mass.edu/boe/docs/FY2016/2016-03/item3-ESSA.pptx	None found	none	Spring/Summer 2016 engage stakeholders but not specific ESSA Stakeholder Outreach Plan Commissioners Weekly Update- Jan. 8th, 2016

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
MI	http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_76731--,00.html	<p>Anticipates submitting in Spring 2017</p> <p>Timeline for plan development and implementation</p>	Identifies EC and PK as goals , State EC specialists are on committees	none	<p>Plan development structure with stakeholder groups, including internal and external groups with roles for various stakeholders (incl listening tours and parent and teacher focus groups).</p> <p>Says Supts been in ongoing discussions with stakeholder but couldn't find any info</p> <p>Presentation to SBE in March 2016</p>
MN	http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/dse/ESSA/index.htm	<p>ESSA Timeline 2016</p> <p>State Plan Creation</p>	<p>ESSA Topic Area Meetings</p> <p>EC listening session in April</p>	none	<p>ESSA Topic Area Meetings</p> <p>Early Learning Presentation Listening sessions by topic through May</p>
MS	http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/SE/essa	None	<p>Mississippi Board of Education 5-Year Strategic Plan 2016-2020</p> <p>Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items April 2016</p>	Mississippi Board of Education 5-Year Strategic Plan 2016-2020	Join the Conversation #RiseMS
MO	<p>https://dese.mo.gov/</p> <p>No ESSA page</p>	<p>ESSA Presentation</p> <p>Slide 26</p>			<p>ESSA Presentation</p> <p>Slide 24</p>
MT	http://opi.mt.gov/Media_Center/ESSA.html	None	None	None	Superintendent Juneau Appoints 33 Montanans to Every Student Succeeds Act Work Groups

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
NE	https://www.education.ne.gov/natlorigin/ESSA.html	<p>What We Know and What We Think We Know About ESSA Committee of Practitioners Meeting</p> <p>link to impact of Title II fiscal impact</p>	None	None	NE uses AQuESST accountability system Flex Waiver never approved
NV	<p>http://www.doe.nv.gov/</p> <p>No ESSA page</p>	<p>Nevada has implementation considerations for almost every part of ESSA, most of them are here:</p> <p>http://nvsearch.nv.gov/search?affiliate=stateofnevada&query=essa</p>	EC stakeholders included on Adv Group clear reference to PK	None	<p>Advisory Group</p> <p>Meeting materials on line</p> <p>mayitasanchez@doe.nv.gov</p>
NH	Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)	Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)	<p>Early Childhood Advisory team</p> <p>Purpose-To research and design a state plan focused on Early Childhood supports for schools and districts.</p>	None	<p>Survey</p> <p>ESSA Advisory Teams</p>
NJ	http://www.state.nj.us/education/ESSA/	<p>ESSA Transition Timeline http://www.state.nj.us/education/ESSA/</p> <p>ESSA: Overview and Implications for New Jersey</p> <p>Developing plan this summer</p>	None	None	<p>Memo to LEAs-</p> <p>Says they are developing a stakeholder engagement plan. <i>Mid-Atlantic CC (Marty Orlander) is working with them.</i></p> <p>ESSA@doe.state.nj.us.</p>

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
NM	http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/ESSA.html	ESSA Transition and Implementation Stakeholder Engagement http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/ESSA.html			Stakeholder Engagement http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/ESSA.html
NY	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/essa.html NYC: http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/tools/accountability/default.htm	None	None	None	None
NC	http://www.ncpublicschools.org/program-monitoring/succeeds/	http://www.ncpublicschools.org/program-monitoring/succeeds/ Timeline and Potential Stakeholder Groups Dec 2016 approved by SBE	None	ESSA Federal and State Comparison of Current Requirements for North Carolina	Fall Public Comment Sessions Scheduled http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/succeeds/ Through March/April various opps for public input Public Notices 2015-16 News Releases 2015-16 NC Early Childhood Foundation held webinar -- http://us7.campaign-archive2.com/?u=05db460296a7c1e61398830fe&id=766094fd5c&e=f6375babda
ND	https://www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/SSI/ESSA/	Transition Process NCLB to ESSA	None	Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Subcommittees	ESSA Planning Committee

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
OH	http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA	Comparison of Select Elements of ESEA: NCLB v. Every Student Succeeds Act	None	None	Webinars and Proposed Stakeholder Meetings ESSA Survey essa@education.ohio.gov
OK	http://sde.ok.gov/sde/essa	ESSA PowerPoint-Timeline slide	Supt testifies and mentions EC	New Legislation eliminates student growth req	ESSA Stakeholder Survey
OR	http://www.ode.state.or.us/news/announcements/announcement.aspx?ID=13541&TypeID=4	State Plan and Implementation Overview ESSA presentation Aug 2016 preliminary draft SY2017 transition SY 2018 new plan implemented ESSA State Plan Development and Implementation Overview	None	Educator Effectiveness Work Group	Community Forums ESSA Joint Work Group Meetings
PA	http://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act.aspx#.VzDGMelrLR0	ESSA Planning and Implementation in Pennsylvania ESSA Transition and Implementation The new framework under ESSA largely goes into effect in the 2017-18 school year, with 2016-17 serving as a transition year.	District Director of EC on Ed Certification WG; and 2 others with EC in their title	Educator Evaluation http://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act.aspx#.VzDGMelrLR0	http://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/About%20PDE/ESSA%20Work%20Group%20Rosters.pdf 4 workgroups - educator certification, assessment, accountability, educator evaluation Mid-Atlantic working with them and also CCSSO

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
		Pennsylvania's existing state plan remains effective until August 1, 2016. Under ESSA, states are expected to continue interventions in priority and focus schools through the 2016-17 school year.			RA-edESSA@pa.gov
RI	http://www.ride.ri.gov/InformationAccountability/EveryStudentSucceedsAct(ESSA).aspx	2020 Vision for Education	2020 Vision for Education	None	Committee of Practitioners http://www.ride.ri.gov/InformationAccountability/EveryStudentSucceedsAct(ESSA).aspx
SC	http://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/every-student-succeeds-act-essa/	SC requests assessment waiver	None	None	General ESSA Feedback Form Parent and Student ESSA Feedback Form essa.comments@ed.sc.gov
SD	http://doe.sd.gov/secretary/essa.aspx	WG convene April-Sept	None	Educator Effectiveness Work Group	ESSA Work Groups http://doe.sd.gov/secretary/essa.aspx ESSA Listserv Docket ID ED-2015-OESE-0130: Implementing Programs under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
TN	https://www.tn.gov/education/section/essa	This is Tennessee's overall strategic plan, not specifically for ESSA. https://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/education/attachments/strategic_plan.pdf	See strategic plan "Building skills in early grades to contribute to future success"	https://www.tn.gov/education/section/essa See section on Evaluation	ESSA Feedback Form ESSA Working Group Members
TX	http://tea.texas.gov/ No ESSA page	None	None	None	ESSA essa@tea.texas.gov.
UT	http://www.schools.utah.gov/main/ No ESSA page	ESSA and Other Congressional Action	None	None	None
VT	http://education.vermont.gov/vermont-schools/education-laws/essa	See main page "the Agency anticipates submitting a draft plan for federal approval in by January 15, 2017." Feedback: ESSA State Plan Development See also see here, slide 2	None	See main page: "The AOE will not increase the amount of annual standardized testing required for Vermont students. . . Vermont should continue to use the SBAC for grades 3 and 8."	Public Input Opportunities for Involvement chris.case@vermont.gov
VA	http://www.doe.virginia.gov/federal_programs/esea/essa/index.shtml	State Plan Development Timeline SUBJECT: Highly Qualified Teachers and Paraprofessionals: Transition from the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) to the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)	None	Title II, Part A: Highly Qualified Teachers and Overview of the Instructional Personnel and Licensure Report	Stakeholder Engagement and ESSA State Plan

State	SEA ESSA website	Timeline for state plan	EC Role	Teacher Eval	Public Input
		Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015: Highlights and Implementation Update			
WA	http://www.k12.wa.us/ESEA/default.aspx	Washington's ESSA Consolidated Plan Timeline	Early Childhood Education Workgroup	Effective Educators Workgroup	Washington's Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is hosting a series of regional forums about ESSA implementation . The forums, which started last week and go through August, are open to the public and include time for discussion and feedback.
WV	https://wvde.state.wv.us/essa/	Transition to ESSA	None	None	ESSA Get Involved
WI	http://dpi.wi.gov/esea	None	None	None	Listening sessions on school improvement and school Accountability.
WY	https://edu.wyoming.gov/in-the-classroom/federal-programs/homeless-ed/transitioning-to-the-every-student-succeeds-act-essa/	None	None	Title I School Improvement and AYP Update	ESSA Town Hall Meetings