

ESSA CHEAT SHEET

The Titles

Title I is the largest pot of federal education funding. In order to receive funds, state must have an approved plan that meets requirements for: state academic standards, state assessments, state report cards, and required improvement efforts for identified low-performing schools. This includes setting goals for, and reporting on the performance of, different population groups.

- **Title I helps authorizers answer two key questions: how well is a school performing, and is it serving all students well?** It provides annual, comparable data on a variety of performance metrics for every charter school, including data divided by population groups. How a state designs their systems, and chooses to report on these requirements, will have a direct impact on the type and content of the standard annual performance data an authorizer can access from the State.
- **Fulfilling Title I requirements means** having an educational program that meets state standards, participating in the annual state assessment, correctly reporting that and other data to the State (or district), engaging in any required improvement efforts, and spending Title I funding appropriately. At times, fulfilling these requirements can spill over into policy areas generally governed by other Titles, such as teacher quality or special populations.

Title II provides funding to increase the quality of teachers, principals, and school leaders. To receive funds a state has to have an approved plan to increase quality of these professionals which could include elements like: teacher certification requirements, teacher evaluations, alternative credential programs, or teacher retention. States have significant flexibility to design their plan.

- **Fulfilling Title II requirements means** adhering to any state requirements (that apply to charter schools) for teacher, principle, or school leader quality and, if the charter school receives Title II funds, spending funds on appropriate activities.

Title IV includes competitive grant programs for states and individual LEAs. If a state receives a grant through one of these programs it may create new or modified requirements for individual schools. This varies by program.

- Many states will receive an Expanding Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Grant under Title IV Part C, formerly called the Public Charter School Program. Receipt of this grant places several additional requirements on states, authorizers, and charter schools. It will be explored in separate documents.

Titles VI, VII and IX address specific programs for special populations of students, including Native American and native Hawaiian (Title VI), homeless youth (Title IX), and some geographic communities (Title VII).

- **Fulfilling requirements for these Titles** will vary state to state, but it commonly means providing specialized or additional services to these populations.

Titles III, V and VIII mainly affect state-level policy and have little distinct impact on charter school oversight—English Learners (Title III), rural education and other grant programs (Title V), and definitions and other requirements (Title VIII).

ESSA Implementation Timeline

2016: JANUARY-JUNE	2016: JULY-DECEMBER	2017: JANUARY-AUGUST
<p>U.S. Department of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial Rules and Regulations Change federal reporting requirements for transition <p>States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin discussing state plan for ESSA compliance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards and assessments likely first, report cards and school improvement second States may begin forming stakeholder committees for ESSA compliance <p>Authorizers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin experiencing data gaps Begin discussions with schools about transition in standards, assessments, and state systems 	<p>U.S. Department of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize rules by Dec. 2016 Jul. 1, Aug. 1, Oct. 1—program effective dates <p>States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue discussing state plan for ESSA compliance Begin preparing ESSA compliance plans <p>Authorizers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue experiencing data gaps Prepare for ESSA transitions Participate in state ESSA compliance planning process 	<p>U.S. Department of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review submitted ESSA compliance plans Anticipated deadline: <i>Title I plans due March or June, 2017</i> <p>States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and submit ESSA compliance plans to ED Make state-level policy changes, if necessary <p>Authorizers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue experiencing data gaps Begin ESSA transitions Participate in state ESSA compliance process Shift federal and state compliance monitoring for ESSA
<p>2017–18 School Year: ESSA in Full Effect</p>		

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- **Your State ESSA Web Hub**
 - Find your state ESSA web hub in the “[State ESSA Contacts](#)” section of this planning document.
- **NACSA ESSA for Authorizers**
 - <http://www.qualitycharters.org/research-policies/archive/essa-for-authorizers/>
- **US Department of Education ESSA homepage**
 - Great for the latest federal guidance on the ESSA transition, including a continually-updated ESSA FAQ.
 - <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/index.html?src=essa-resources>
- **Council of Chief State School Officers ESSA guide** or **Education Commission of the States ESSA guide**
 - Resources that your SEA, State Chief, and state policy makers are likely using as they put together state plans.
 - http://www.ccsso.org/Resources/Programs/Every_Student_Succeeds_Act.html
 - <http://www.ecs.org/essa-quick-guides-on-top-issues/>
- **National Alliance for Public Charter Schools ESSA homepage**
 - Information on ESSA geared towards individuals operating charter schools.
 - <http://www.publiccharters.org/where-we-stand/washington/esea/>
- **Understanding ESSA** (<http://understandingessa.org/>)
 - A tracker of the latest ESSA implementation activities across the country that allows you to search by state or by topic. Charter schools are in the “School Choice” category.