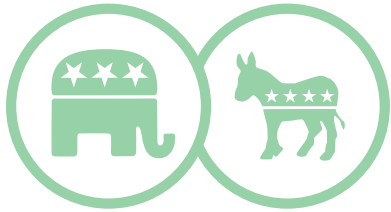


WHAT IS THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)?



ESSA
DECEMBER 2015

ESSA was a **bipartisan** effort signed into law in December 2015.

NCLB → **ESSA**

ESSA **replaced** *No Child Left Behind (NCLB)* and is the most recent version of the federal *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*.

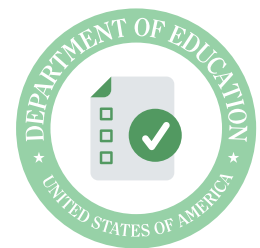
K-12



ESSA governs federal K-12 education policy in the U.S. with a focus on achieving equity for traditionally underserved students, including requirements for **annual standardized testing** and development of accountability systems for schools and districts, as well as provisions for how states will support under- and low-performing schools and districts. ESSA also authorizes key **federal funding streams** (e.g., Title I, Title II) and other programs aimed primarily at disadvantaged students.

State Plan Development

State education leaders engaged a variety of stakeholder groups to inform the development of each state's ESSA plan. State leaders then submitted these plans to the U.S. Department of Education for approval. The law fully goes into effect in the 2018-2019 school year.



The most recent iteration of the law shifts some authority from the federal level to the states, and also creates some new authority at the local level, creating new opportunities for district leaders to **drive and support educational equity**.