

WHAT'S NEW IN ESSA?

QUICK FACTS: FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

ESSA keeps some requirements, and also brings some big changes when it replaces No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

While states have to adopt “challenging” academic standards in reading, math, and science, the federal government can’t try to influence a state’s decision.

ANNUAL TESTING

ESSA requires that states test students in reading and math annually from 3rd to 8th grade, and once in high school. States must also test in science once in grade school, middle school, and high school.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Districts must test for both growth and proficiency under ESSA. Graduation rate, reading and math proficiency, English-language proficiency, school quality, and a state chosen growth measure must all be included as well.

STRUGGLING STUDENTS & SCHOOLS

ESSA does not punish struggling schools, like its predecessor NCLB. Instead, ESSA provides resources and structures for school improvement, including professional development, leadership training, and more. Evidence-based methods to improve schools can be decided on at the local level, with state approval. ESSA requires states help schools with low graduation rates, problems meeting academic indicators, and struggling subgroups (i.e English learners, Students with Disabilities, Ethnic and Racial groups).



For more information on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), visit:
<http://bit.ly/ESSA-WA>