

California's Accountability System

Academic Performance Index

For 15 years, the state used the Academic Performance Index to rank schools and districts based mostly on standardized test scores. Numerous critics said this one-dimensional view of performance led schools to focus too much on test results.

Local Control Funding Formula and the Local Control and Accountability Plan

In 2013 Governor Brown signed a bill to establish the Local Control Funding Formula and the Local Control and Accountability Plan. The law requires the State Board of Education to approve LCFF evaluation rubrics to assist local educational agencies to identify strengths and weaknesses of their plans. The law says school districts must pay attention to eight priorities, including school climate, parent involvement, new state academic standards and student achievement.

ESSA and the Accountability Plan

With the enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act, California will streamline local, state, and federal requirements into a single accountability plan. It will incorporate the federal requirements of the act and build upon the work that has been done to develop an accountability system based on multiple measures that show how students, schools, and districts are doing. The official start date for both the state and federal accountability systems will be the 2017-18 school year.

Changes in California

The new accountability system is just one element among larger changes in California. Those changes include implementing new academic standards, expanding career and college readiness programs and, with the adoption of the Local Control Funding Formula, shifting power from Sacramento to local districts.

ESSA State Plan Development Opportunities

Keep Informed by Email

Anyone can receive information about ESSA in California. by sending a blank email message to the email address you see on the slide tojoin-essa@mlist.cde.ca.gov.

Written Public Comment

At its meeting on May 10, the California State Board of Education approved the commencement of a public comment period for the first complete draft of California's Every Student Succeeds Act State Plan. The public comment period will take place May 22 through June 30, 2017. The public comment survey will be made available on May 22, and CSLA will send out information about it.

In addition to this formal public comment period, stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments, questions, recommendations, or letters concerning the ESSA State Plan at any time to the California Department of Education by email at ESSA@cde.ca.gov.

In Person Public Comment

Stakeholders are also encouraged to provide public comment during the California Practitioners Advisory Group and State Board of Education meetings in which the ESSA State Plan will be discussed. The California Practitioners Advisory Group meetings will take place on June 1 and August 25. The State Board of Education meetings will take place on July 12-13 and September 13.

Stakeholder Meetings

The California Department of Education is partnering with select county offices of education and other education organizations to hold stakeholder meetings during the public comment period. The purpose of these meetings is to review the State Plan and encourage stakeholders to participate in the public comment process. Nine in person two-hour meetings have been scheduled May 25 - June 15. Four online webinars will take place May 23, May 24, June 21, and June 24. Registration is required for both in person meetings and webinars. Full details can be found on the CDE website. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/es/essaopptopart.asp>

More Information

For more information about California's transition to the Every Student Succeeds Act, please visit www.cde.ca.gov/essa.

CSLA's response to ESSA

Position Statement

Information about how school libraries fit into the Every Student Succeeds Act can be found on CSLA's website under the [advocacy](#) tab. There is a wealth of information specific to ESSA and school libraries on the web page, including CSLA's position statement on "The Role of Effective School Library Programs in the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015". The position statement was approved by the state board on October 1, 2016.

MSLS

CSLA was instrumental in getting the Model School Library Standards written and approved by the California Board of Education in 2010. The newly updated annual survey incorporated the Model School Library Standards to better assess the type and extent of library services schools provide. In a letter sent last March, from Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, to county and district superintendents, to encourage participation in the survey, he said this about the standards,

“The school library standards maintain California’s respect for local control of schools. They provide guidance to school districts for implementing strong school library programs...

We encourage local decision makers and educators to use these standards to design library policies and curricular and instructional strategies that best deliver content to their students. The school library standards reflect our commitment to excellence in school library services throughout the state....

Please review and consider these standards as you build and maintain a high-quality school library program for your students and teachers.”

I encourage you to refer to the Model School Library Standards when advocating for our profession.