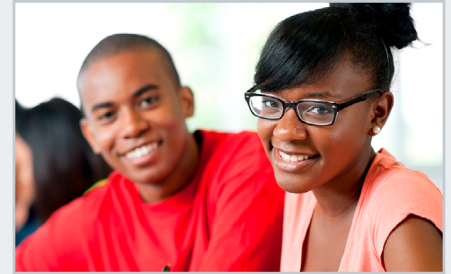




District of Columbia
Office of the State Superintendent of Education



SUPPORTING ALL STUDENTS

Additional Information on DC's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Draft State Plan

In December 2015, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the latest version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. The law requires DC to set a new state education plan, with input from educators, parents, and the community. Below are highlights of strategies in the Office of the State Superintendent of Education's (OSSE) plan about serving specific groups of students.

Improving School Conditions for Student Learning

- ESSA requires states and schools to work together to reduce bullying and harassment.

Serving Students with Disabilities

- In addition to ESSA-related changes, OSSE will provide continued support to schools under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to strengthen educational transitions between grades and transition out of high school and improve graduation rates for students with disabilities.
- OSSE will provide LEAs with enhanced training on how and when to use accommodations for students with disabilities on state assessments.

Serving English Learners (ELs) and Immigrant Students

- ESSA decreases confusion for families with children who are learning the English language by requiring some statewide, standardized policies for how schools serve these students.

Students Experiencing Homelessness

- OSSE provides year-round training for school homeless liaisons, teachers, administrators, and school support personnel.
- ESSA makes it easier to keep students experiencing homelessness in their school of origin. OSSE helps resolve disputes between LEAs, and reduces barriers to enrollment, through resolving issues around student records, uniforms, and immunizations.
- OSSE and partner agencies also are working to increase homeless students' access to preschool, nutrition supports, extracurricular activities, and college readiness programs.
- OSSE is conducting statewide needs assessments for students experiencing homelessness, to better direct support resources.

Improving Coordination to Support Foster Care and At-Risk Youth

- OSSE is working more closely with government agencies (e.g., Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, DYRS; and Child and Family Services Agency, CFSA) to coordinate services and share information so that the city builds a strong safety net around youth in foster care and those who are neglected, delinquent, or at-risk.

To read the draft DC State Education Plan and find more information on the development of the plan during the last year, visit OSSE's ESSA webpage at [OSSE.dc.gov/essa](https://osse.dc.gov/essa). Public comment may be submitted by emailing OSSE.ESSA@dc.gov or completing the survey available on [OSSE.dc.gov/essa](https://osse.dc.gov/essa) by March 3, 2017.