Every Student Succeeds Act

Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

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Background

- President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) into law in December 2015, which reauthorized the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (*ESEA*).

- Newly authorized under subpart 1 of *Title IV*, Part A of the *ESEA* is the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) program.

- The SSAE program provides state educational agencies, local educational agencies, and schools the flexibility to utilize funding based on the needs of your student population and community.

Grants are intended to assist schools under three major categories:

1. Provide all students with access to a well-rounded education (enriched curriculum and educational experiences).

2. Improve school conditions for student learning (safe and healthy schools).

3. Improve the use of technology (to improve academic achievement and digital literacy).

Leveraging Federal, State, and Local Resources

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- In order to maximize the use of the SSAE program resources, SEAs, LEAs, and schools may partner with organizations such as nonprofits, institutions of higher education (IHEs), museums, and community organizations to offer programs and services to students.

- State and local leaders should consider how other Federal, State and local funds may be leveraged to support a holistic approach to a well-rounded education.

Program Requirements

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- SEAs and LEAs should be mindful that SSAE program funds may be used only to supplement, and not supplant, non-Federal funds that would otherwise be available for activities authorized under the SSAE program.

- SSAE grant recipients must comply with Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age.
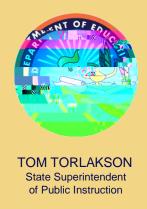
Local Application Requirements: Overview

- LEAs are required to submit an application to the SEA to receive their SSAE program allocation.

- An LEA may, if it chooses, apply for funds in consortium with one or more surrounding LEAs.
  - During the design and development of applications, an LEA or consortium of LEAs must engage in consultation with stakeholders in the area served by the LEA. Such stakeholders must include, but are not limited to, the following:

Local Application Requirements: Comprehensive Needs Assessment

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- An LEA that receives at least $30,000 in SSAE program funds must conduct a comprehensive needs assessment that includes, at a minimum, a focus on three content areas:

- Well-Rounded Educational opportunities;

- Safe and Healthy Students; and

- Effective Use of Technology

- The needs assessment must occur at least once every three years.

Funding Allocations

- LEAs or a consortium of LEAs must prioritize the distribution of funds to schools based on one or more of several factors, including schools that:

  - are among those with the greatest needs, as determined by the LEA;

  - have the highest numbers of students from low-income families;

  - are identified for comprehensive support and improvement under *Title I,* Part A of the *ESEA*;

  - are implementing targeted support and improvement plans under *Title I*, Part A of the *ESEA*; and/or

  - are identified as a persistently dangerous public school under section 8532 of the *ESEA*.

Funding Allocations

- Based on the results of the comprehensive needs assessment, the LEA or a consortium of LEAs must use:
  - At least 20 percent of funds for activities to support well-rounded educational opportunities;
  - At least 20 percent of funds for activities to support safe and healthy students; and
  - A portion of funds for activities to support effective use of technology.

Funding-What We Know

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- $1.65 billion is authorized.

- At this time we are operating under a continuing resolution through April 2017.

- The CDE anticipates that California will receive $58 million in Title IV, Part A based on President Obama's proposed budget.

- ED does not have a final appropriation for Fiscal year 2017-18 so it is uncertain what level of funding may be available.

Implementing Effective SSAE Program Activities

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- Identify local needs
- Select relevant, evidence-based activities
- Plan for implementation
- Implement activities
- Examine and reflect