

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides Louisiana with a unique opportunity to align academic planning decisions with the federal funds needed to execute them. This guidance outlines some of the key federal program funding updates related to ESSA that will impact academic planning and budget decisions for the 2018-2019 school year.

Federal Program Topic	Prior to 2018-2019	2018-2019 and Beyond	Support
Title I Supplement Not Supplant	<p>There were three presumptions of supplanting if Title I funds paid for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An activity was required by federal, state, or local law 2. An activity was paid for with local or state funds the prior year 3. Services for Title I students that local and state funds support for non-Title I students. 	<p>Three presumptions of supplanting no longer apply to Title I, Part A. Instead, school systems must have a methodology in place to ensure a “neutral” distribution of local and state funds across all schools, regardless of Title I status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar by Brustein & Manasevit: March 13 at 1:00 p.m. • Guidance from USDOE: anticipated later this spring/summer
Class Size Reduction (CSR)	<p>Districts could use Title II funds to hire teachers to reduce classroom sizes.</p>	<p>ESSA allows Title II to fund class-size reduction only if the strategy is “evidence-based” and improves student achievement through the recruiting and hiring of effective teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2018-2019, schools labeled as “Comprehensive Support Required” must meet this evidence criteria. • In 2019-2020, the bar for evidence will apply for all schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee of Practitioners: The Department will preview the guidance and consult with the Committee of Practitioners. Following the meeting, additional guidance will be released via the newsletter and April school system planning call. • LASAFAP Conference Session: March 27

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<p>Special Education Planning and the IDEA Consolidated Application</p>	<p>Districts tied budgeted expenses in the IDEA application to the “Key Planning Decisions” made during the general district planning process.</p>	<p>The Department released a Guidebook for Supporting Students with Disabilities last fall that identified four specific strategies for improving outcomes and achievement of students with disabilities. School systems will receive support to develop district plans for special education around these four strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early and Accurate Identification • High Quality Instruction • Specialized Supports/Related Services • Transition Planning <p>To support school systems in directing IDEA funds to support these plans, the 2018-2019 IDEA Consolidated Application will reflect this strategy-based planning process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education Leader Webinar: March 8 • March Collaboration Session “How to Fund Your Special Education Plan: The IDEA Grant Application”: March 13, 14 and 23 • LASAFAP Conference Session: March 27 • Special Education Advisory Council: March 28 • Weekly Support Calls: April-May
<p>Parental Involvement</p>	<p>Family engagement policies and activities could be approved and funded without ensuring that all families had the opportunity to participate in the development of these plans.</p>	<p>A school system may only receive funds if their family engagement policy and activities are developed and implemented with the inclusion of all families and reaches beyond barriers of culture, language, disabilities, and poverty.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February Collaborations Session “Family Engagement and ESSA” • LASAFAP Conference Session: March 26