The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law on December 10, 2015. It reauthorizes the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which was previously reauthorized as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) developed a summary of each major section within our state’s ESSA plan.

Guiding Principles

The IDOE developed guiding principle to drive ESSA plan development:

Accountability System Overview

Indiana’s federal accountability system provides accessible data that is actionable and aligned to the policy goals of increasing overall literacy proficiency; increasing access to quality STEM opportunities for students; and increasing the number of college and career ready graduations. The accountability system was developed with three guiding principles:

- The accountability system should drive student achievement, and measure the relative effectiveness of schools in a valid, reliable, comprehensible and actionable manner. The accountability system should simultaneously identify contributors to high performance and areas of concern that need additional support and resources.
- The accountability system should set achievement targets and goals that incentivize high performance and yield high student achievement, and move schools toward those performance targets.
- The accountability system should focus attention on schools that need support in order to provide all students in the State with an equitable academic experience that contributes to postsecondary and workforce success.

Key Decision Points

Alignment of the Accountability System to Long-Term Goals

In order to effectively monitor school performance, all performance indicators measured in the accountability system align to long-term performance goals. A school receives a rating for each performance indicator based on how the school performs in relation to that goal. For example, the State’s long-term goal for graduation rate is 93.6%, and a school’s graduation rate will be compared to this 93.6% goal.

Overall Ratings to Meaningfully Differentiate Schools

The ESSA requires the State to assign overall ratings to schools based on the overall performance on all required performance indicators. Historically, Indiana has assigned schools overall ratings based on an A-F grading system. Under the federal accountability system, Indiana will assign the following ratings based on the school’s performance against long-term performance goals:
Performance Indicators Measured in the Accountability System

The ESSA requires the State to measure performance on certain indicators. The table below provides a breakdown of the performance indicators measured in the federal accountability system, by grade span.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 8</th>
<th>GRADE 9 – GRADE 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Achievement (English/Language Arts &amp; Math)</td>
<td>Academic Achievement (English/Language Arts &amp; Math)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Progress (English/Language Arts &amp; Math)</td>
<td>Academic Progress (English/Language Arts &amp; Math)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language Proficiency Progress for English Learners</td>
<td>English Language Proficiency Progress for English Learners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing Chronic Absenteeism</td>
<td>Addressing Chronic Absenteeism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Achievement Gaps (English/Language Arts &amp; Math)</td>
<td>Graduation Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength of Diploma for Graduates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The tables below demonstrate the distribution of weights by indicator for kindergarten through 8th grade, and 9th grade through 12th grade, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

Where can I learn more?

- To view all ESSA section summaries, visit: [https://www.doe.in.gov/essa](https://www.doe.in.gov/essa)
- To view the entire plan, visit: [https://www.doe.in.gov/essa](https://www.doe.in.gov/essa)
- For additional information, contact: schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov