Evidence-Based: The What and the How
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1. Know the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) regarding the use of evidence-based practices.
2. Understand ESSA’s four levels of evidence-based.
3. Practice finding evidence-based practices on databases.
ESSA replaced No Child Left Behind (NCLB) in December 2015

In response, IDOE restructuring the division to provide the same IDOE contact person for all Title programs including School Improvement Grants (SIG)
- Information found at www.doe.in.gov/grants

Change: ESSA requires that schools receiving SIG use evidence-based practices by 2018–19.
Developing the ESSA Plan

- Nine meetings across the state, open to the public for ideas, April–May 2017
- Draft created, open for public comment, September 2017
- Plan finalized and submitted to U.S. Department of Education, December 2017
- Plan approved by U.S. Department of Education, January 2018
Comparing NCLB and ESSA

- Both: States direct **resources to lowest performing schools** to close achievement gaps.
- Both: Schools/districts required to choose **interventions of promise and rigor**—NCLB, “research-based; ESSA, “evidence-based.”
- ESSA: Schools **conduct needs assessment** that will guide appropriate selection and use of interventions.
More About ESSA

- ESSA cedes power back to the states to determine what accountability should look like.
- States must establish a statewide accountability system.
- States must develop a related school support system and improvement activities by the 2017–18 school year.
ESSA Difference: Interventions Informed by IDOE Indicators and Goals

1. Academic achievement: student mastery of grade-level standards
2. Academic progress: student growth in mastering grade-level standards
3. Graduation rate indicator: attainment of a high school diploma
ESSA Difference: Interventions Informed by IDOE Indicators and Goals (continued)

4. **School quality/student success indicator:**
   - Grades K–8: impact of school environment on social and academic student development; student preparedness determined through early warning indicators
   - Grades 9–12: preparedness for postsecondary education or workforce entrance

5. **English language learner proficiency:** ELs’ growth in English proficiency to impact academic growth
ESSA’s Levels of Evidence Base

- Indicates four levels of evidence.
- Schools should use the practice that falls under the highest evidence base.
- IDOE will provide guidance for
  - understanding evidence-based levels, and
  - finding resources for the evidence-based practices.
Four Levels of Evidence-Based

- Strong
- Moderate
- Promising
- “Under evaluation”
Levels of Evidence

1. Strong—At least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental study (i.e., randomized controlled trial).

2. Moderate—At least one well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study (i.e., comparison).

3. Promising—At least one well-designed and well-implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias.

4. Under evaluation—Demonstrates rationale based on high-quality research or positive evaluation that such activity, strategy, or intervention is likely to improve outcomes.
Organizations and the U.S. Department of Education have developed websites of evidence-based practices.

IDOE reviewed the websites and are encouraging the use of those that
- show lack of conflict of interest,
- include areas of correspondence to your school’s needs assessments, and
- are easy to use.
Finding Evidence-Based Practices

- **Step 1:** Based on the needs assessment of your school (SIG plan), identify the focus areas of interventions.
- **Step 2:** Go to Web-based reviews of evidence-based practices.
- **Step 3:** Consider carefully the interventions most appropriate for your school and specific learners.
  - Is it appropriate for the student group (e.g., a specific disability, EL)?
  - Is it appropriate for the age and/or level of the student?
  - Do you have the resources (staff, materials, funding) needed to implement the intervention with fidelity?
Select topics to **Find What Works** based on the evidence.

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Science
- Behavior
- Children and Youth with Disabilities
- English Learners
- Teacher Excellence
- Charter Schools
- Early Childhood (Pre-K)
- Kindergarten to 12th Grade
- Path to Graduation
- Postsecondary
EFFECTIVE PRACTICES

Research Briefs and Evidence Rating

Center on Innovations in Learning
Proven Programs Successful Students

Your new standard for the most up-to-date and reliable information on programs that meet ESSA evidence standards.
Thank you for coming to our session!

Reach out to your IDOE Title consultant for additional information!
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