

# Indiana Department of Education 2020 Legislative Priority Fact Sheet



## **Priority**

*Support a transparent, single accountability system for Hoosier families*

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires Indiana to have an accountability system that includes all students, all schools, and meets the requirements of federal law. Indiana's current accountability system excludes certain student groups required by ESSA. The differences result in Indiana having two systems to assess schools. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) supports legislation to alter Indiana's state accountability system to mirror ESSA.

## **Facts:**

- ESSA requires every child be considered for accountability purposes, while Indiana's state system allows exclusions of children, many of whom are the state's most at-risk.
- \$1 billion from the federal government could be lost if the state does not follow ESSA.
- Releasing a state assigned school letter grade and a federal school rating to each school creates a communication challenge, according to ExcelinEd, a national foundation aimed at supporting education excellence.