

Board of Regents ESSA Mission

The mission of the New York State Board of Regents is to ensure that **every child** has **equitable access** to the highest quality educational opportunities, services and supports in schools that provide **highly effective instruction** aligned to the state's standards, as well as **positive learning environments** so that each child is **prepared** for success in **college, career, and citizenship**.



New York's Voices, New York's Plan: *Stakeholder Feedback on Draft Plan*



Public Hearings

- **13 public hearings statewide:** Long Island, Staten Island, Bronx, Manhattan, Syracuse, Rochester, Plattsburgh, Yonkers, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Queens, Binghamton, Albany
- **ESSA Think Tank meeting on June 14**
- **270+ speakers**



Written Comments

- **800+ comments submitted** via email and postal mail
- **Half of those comments came from three form letter campaigns**

Consultation Activities

- ESSA Think Tank
- Title I Committee of Practitioners
- ESSA Winter Regional Meetings
- ESSA Spring Regional Meetings

Work with National Experts

- Linda Darling-Hammond, Learning Policy Institute
- Scott Marion, National Center for Improvement of Educational Assessment
- CCSSO, Brustein & Manasevit

Consultation with Governor's Office and Legislature



Board of Regents Discussions on ESSA Plan Development, October 2016 – September 2017

- 1. October 2016:** Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan Development Activities
- 2. November 2016:** Development of New York's Every Student Succeeds Act State Plan and ESSA State Plan High Concept Ideas
- 3. December 2016:** Development of New York's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan
- 4. January 2017:** Development of the New York State Every Student Succeeds Act Plan and ESSA State Plan High Concept Ideas and Proposed "High Concept Idea" Summaries -- Supports and Improvements for Schools 12/01/2016 and Survey of School Quality and Student Success Indicators
- 5. March 2017:** ESSA Public Retreat



Board of Regents Discussions on ESSA Plan Development, October 2016 – September 2017

- 6. April 2017:** April 4 Board of Regents Meeting on ESSA
- 7. May 2017:** Overview of New York's Draft Every Student Succeeds Act Plan
- 8. June 2017:** Feedback from Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Public Hearings and an Update on the Next Generation Learning Standards
- 9. July 2017:** Proposed Changes Final Draft Plan - Commissioner's Presentation to the Board, State Dashboards, Next Generation Assessment Systems, and Social, Emotional, Health, Mental Health, and Attendance Issues, and Stakeholder Feedback Analysis
- 10. September 2017:** Proposed ESSA Plan For Submission to USDE

Submission of Waivers Related to the State's ESSA Plan

At the same time the ESSA plan is submitted to the USDE, the Department recommends that the Board of Regents direct the Department to submit requests for waivers to the ESSA statute in three areas:

1. Double testing for high achieving middle school students enrolled in High School courses
2. ELA Testing for Second Year English Language/Multilingual Learners
3. Off Grade Testing for Students with Disabilities

Waiver—Eliminate Double Testing for High Achieving Middle School Students Enrolled in High School Courses

What waiver requests:

- Allow schools with Grade 7 students taking high school math courses and Grade 8 students taking high school science courses to be exempt from taking the associated grade level assessments in math and science. Regents results are used for accountability purposes.

Justification

- Currently allowed in Commissioner's Regulations 100.18(14)(v)

Waiver—ELA Testing for Second Year English language learners/Multilingual Learners (ELL/MLL)

What waiver requests:

- Allows the state to not have to include in school accountability determinations the first administration of an ELA examination to newly arrived students and to use student's growth between the first two ELA test administration's for accountability purposes.

Justification

- A school will have four years instead of just two years before becoming accountable for demonstrating the proficiency of newly arrived ELLs/MLLs on a language arts administered in English.
- Waiver request consistent with NYS Education Law 305(48)

Waiver—Off-Grade Testing for Students with Disabilities

What waiver requests:

- Allow selected group of students with disabilities who have significant cognitive and intellectual disabilities that preclude their meaningful participation in chronological grade-level instruction to take grades 3-8 assessments up to two levels below their grade-level.

Justification

- Consistent with ESSA provisions allowing off-grade testing through computer adaptive tests
- Waiver request consistent with NYS Education Law 305(48)

Submission of Waivers Related to the State's ESSA Plan

- ✓ Each of these waivers has been referenced within the State's draft ESSA plan and discussed at length by the Board of Regents and with stakeholders across the state.
- ✓ The Department issued a press release regarding the public comment period on August 25, 2017. Subsequently, the notice was posted on the Department's social media accounts and website, distributed to members of the state's Title I Committee of Practitioners and the ESSA Think Tank, as well as disseminated to the field to superintendents and principals through the Senior Deputy Commissioner's e-mail newsletter. The public comment period ended on Friday, September 8.
- ✓ Twenty-five comments were received. In general, the comments are in support of the waivers including feedback from statewide stakeholders such as NYSCOSS, NYSSBA, and NYSPTA. However, there were six comments from special education advocacy groups opposed to the waiver related to testing students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Next Steps: ESSA Plan Submission

Activity	Date
Deadline to submit ESSA State Plan to USDE	September 18, 2017
USDE provides formal feedback on the plan to NYSED	Estimated: December 2017
Final Approval of New York's ESSA Plan by USDE	Estimated: January/February 2018