

## INTRODUCTION

On December 10, 2015, President Obama signed the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The ESSA builds upon the critical work States and local educational agencies (LEAs) have implemented over the last few years. The reauthorized law prioritizes excellence and equity for our students and supports great educators.

ESSA includes provisions that will help to ensure success for students and schools. Below are just a few. The law:

- Advances equity by upholding critical protections for America's disadvantaged and high-need students.
- Requires—for the first time—that all students in America be taught to high academic standards that will prepare them to succeed in college and careers.
- Ensures that vital information is provided to educators, families, students, and communities through annual statewide assessments that measure students' progress toward those high standards.
- Helps to support and grow local innovations—including evidence-based and place-based interventions developed by local leaders and educators—consistent with our [Investing in Innovation](#) and [Promise Neighborhoods](#)
- Sustains and expands this administration's historic investments in increasing access to high-quality [preschool](#).
- Maintains an expectation that there will be accountability and action to effect positive change in our lowest-performing schools, where groups of students are not making progress, and where graduation rates are low over extended periods of time.

THE BIPARTISAN BILL TO FIX NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND WILL HELP

## ENSURE OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OF AMERICA'S STUDENTS:

- ✓ Holds all students to high academic standards
- ✓ Prepares all students for success in college and career
- ✓ Provides more kids access to high-quality preschool
- ✓ Guarantees steps are taken to help students, and their schools, improve
- ✓ Reduces the burden of testing while maintaining annual information for parents and students
- ✓ Promotes local innovation and invests in what works

#LeadOnEducation