



November 2017

Achieve Launches New ESSA State Accountability Tool

Achieve recently released [a new online tracking tool](#) that summarizes components of states' accountability plans as submitted to the U.S. Department of Education under the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Achieve's new tool summarizes states' goals for student achievement and graduation rates, along with the other indicators and weighting that states plan to use for accountability purposes. This tool also allows for users to compare states' accountability metrics. Take a look to see what's in your state's accountability plan.



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The Power of Teacher Expectations

Education Next published [a study](#) examining the ways in which racial bias on the part of educators hinders student attainment. The study found that college completion rates are systematically higher for students whose teachers had higher expectations for them. More troublingly, researchers also found that white teachers, who comprise the vast majority of American educators, have far

lower expectations for black students than they do for similarly situated white students. This evidence suggests that to raise student attainment, particularly among students of color, elevating teacher expectations, eliminating racial bias, and hiring a more diverse teaching force are worthy goals.



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Leveraging ESSA: Shining a Spotlight on K-12 and Higher Education Alignment

A [new report](#) from Higher Ed for Higher Standards, in partnership with the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), National Association of System Heads (NASH), and State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO), found that 48 states and the District of Columbia included at least one of the recommended K-12/higher education alignment strategies included in Leveraging ESSA - validating college-ready standards and aligned assessments, vertically aligning K-12 and higher education goals, holding schools accountable for college and career preparation, and supporting student transitions into postsecondary - with 10 states demonstrating significant alignment by including three or more of the recommended strategies. These states can and should serve as a model for others seeking to build and expand activities to support student transitions from high school into postsecondary.

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Educator Policies the Every Student Succeeds Act

The Hunt Institute recently released [a brief](#) examining the evolution of research around the impact of teachers and state policy experimentation on how to measure teacher effectiveness. The brief traces differing policies from the original 2001 provisions of No Child Left Behind to ESSA, which refrains from being prescriptive on how states choose to address this question but offers several opportunities for innovation and experimentation.



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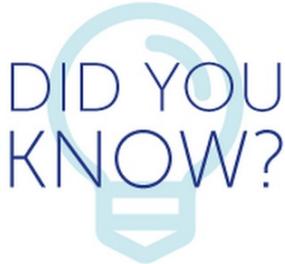
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From Education Week: Growing Number of States Embrace Career Education

"After years of focusing intensely on college readiness, states are turning their attention to students' futures as workers, enacting a flurry of laws and policies designed to bolster career education and preparation."

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Achieve's ESSA State Accountability Tool shows that

11 states

are using a measure of "on track to graduate" as part of their state accountability plans.

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*All students should graduate from high school
ready for college, careers, and citizenship.*

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