

## **Title II, Part A**

Title II, Part A provides formula grants to states to increase academic achievement by improving teacher and principal effectiveness. Title II, Part A was funded at \$2.35 billion in FY 2016. To improve student learning and help educators create the optimum conditions for teaching and learning, states and districts must make a strong investment in professional development for teachers, principals, assistant principals and other school leaders to build their capacity to implement new programs authorized by ESSA.

- ✓ ***NAESP and NASSP urge Congress to fund Title II, Part A at no less than the ESSA authorization level of \$2.295 billion for FY 2017 and FY 2018.***

## **School Leadership Recruitment and Support Program (found in Title II, Part B)**

Research has shown that effective school leadership is second only to instruction as a school-based factor that will improve student learning. This federal grant program focuses on recruiting, mentoring, and providing professional learning for principals and assistant principals who serve in high-need schools. The program has been flat-funded for the past two years at \$16.4 million, which is \$9.4 million less than its FY 2014 level. Under ESSA, funding for this program has shifted to a percentage of the total program budget or no less than 22%, which is critical to fully fund since less than 4 percent of the Title II "allowable use" funds are currently allocated for principal professional development.

- ✓ ***NAESP and NASSP urge Congress to fund not less than 22% of the authorized funds for this subpart or not less than \$15.9 million for FY 2017 and FY 2018.***

## **Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN) (found in Title II, Part B)**

### ***Previously the Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grants***

The purpose of the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy program is to advance literacy skills, including pre-literacy skills, reading, and writing, for students from birth through grade 12, including limited-English-proficient students and students with disabilities. Forty-six states have completed their plans for comprehensive literacy programming, while six states have received awards to implement them: Georgia, Louisiana, Montana, Nevada, Pennsylvania, and Texas. The newly-enacted Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN) builds on the success of Striving Readers. Striving Readers received \$190 million in FY 2016.

- ✓ ***NAESP and NASSP urge Congress to provide \$200 million to maintain a dedicated federal funding stream for literacy programming and educator support.***

## **Title IV, Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants (SSAEG)**

ESSA included a flexible block grant program under Title IV, Part A, authorized at \$1.65 billion annually. This grant authorizes activities in three broad areas: (1) providing students with a well-rounded education; (2) supporting safe and healthy students; and (3) supporting the effective use of technology. Under this grant, each state will receive an allocation based on the Title I funding formula.

- ✓ ***NAESP and NASSP urge Congress to fund the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants at the authorized level of \$1.65 billion.***

The Middle STEP Act would authorize a pilot grant program to develop middle school CTE exploration programs. Districts could use the grants for apprenticeships or other work-based learning activities, individualized graduation and career plans, and plans for students' transition to high school CTE programs of study.

### School Choice Proposals that Divest in Public Education

NAESP and NASSP oppose any efforts in the form of vouchers or tax credits in federal legislation that redirect public education funding to private schools with no accountability to improving the quality of the educational experience that will lead to improved student outcomes.

For example, NAESP and NASSP oppose **H.R. 691/S. 265, the Creating Hope and Opportunity for Individuals and Communities through Education (CHOICE) Act**. The bill would turn IDEA into a voucher program, shifting scarce public funds for special education to private institutions, which are not bound by federal and state laws to ensure accountability on staffing, programming, and personalization for students with disabilities. The bill would also reduce Impact Aid and expand the Opportunity Scholarship voucher program in the District of Columbia.

In addition, NAESP and NASSP are opposed to the following bills:

- **H.R. 716, Enhancing Educational Opportunities for all Students Act of 2017**
  - Would force Title I funds to follow a student to the school of his or her choice rather than being appropriated to the neighborhood school, thus limiting funds for public education institutions.
- **H.R. 610, Choices in Education Act of 2017**
  - Repeals the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and creates a nationwide education voucher program through block grants to states.
- **H.R. 895/S. 148, Educational Opportunities Act of 2017**
  - Allows a tax credit for individual taxpayers for charitable contributions to a scholarship granting organization, which pays for students to attend a private school of their parents' choice.

*Trump  
\$20 billion  
School Choice  
Program  
during Campaign  
→ want Title I  
portability*