

# Every Student Succeeds Act Innovative Assessment Pilot

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# Overview

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- Assessment as a tool for Teaching and Learning
- ESSA Requirements
- Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA)
- Requirements
- IADA Timeline
- Closing Thoughts

# Every Student Succeeds Act

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- ▶ A core guiding principle from the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is supporting the needs of every student through local innovation and location-specific interventions.
- ▶ A prime example of this is the ESSA Innovative Assessment Pilot which presents a unique opportunity to pilot an assessment framework with local student success and educator input in mind.

# Assessment as a Tool for Teaching and Learning

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- ▶ Assessment in its intended form is a key component of teaching and learning. Both learners and teachers rely on a constant stream of feedback in various modalities to identify and address gaps in understanding.
- ▶ Assessment has taken on new roles as results have been leveraged to increase accountability
- ▶ Assessment takes on many forms in the classroom: teacher feedback on in-class assignments, informal observation of student dispositions, engagement and progress, common formative assessments, end of course exams, portfolios of student work, midterms, course grades, etc.

# Assessment as a Tool for Teaching and Learning

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- ▶ As presented to the LESC by the National Conference of State Legislatures, many high performing countries' year-end standardized assessments are used to test the education system using a sample of students as opposed to being the basis of assessing individual student performance
- ▶ The ESSA Innovative Assessment Pilot is an opportunity to rethink current practice and explore innovative assessment ideas that could save the state funds in the long-term, and provide educators with more timely and actionable feedback as a tool for positive impact on student learning.

# Example Pilot Opportunities

Current Practice	Example Pilot Opportunities
<p>PARCC Assessment (Grades 3-11)</p> <p>NMSBA Science Assessment (Grades 4,7,11)</p> <p>Istation Early Reading Assessment (Grades K-3)</p>	<p>Assess a sample of students in selected grade levels for system accountability purposes and implement statewide short cycle, common formative assessments to inform student learning.</p>
<p>End of Course Exams developed by groups of teachers at the state level to assess statewide course level benchmarks and to evaluate teacher effectiveness for subjects not assessed on the state assessment.</p>	<p>Question banks with items submitted by teachers and vetted by groups of teachers at the state level as effectively assessing benchmarks. Teachers then locally select, either at the district or classroom level, items that fit their needs from the item bank for each course specific standard and benchmark.</p>
<p>Alternative Demonstration of Competency for students not yet proficient on the state assessment. Includes: End of course exams, college and career readiness assessments, ACT, SAT, PSAT, portfolios of student work.</p>	<p>Utilize college entrance exams, career readiness assessments, holistic assessments of student development, competency based tests, capstone course products, portfolios of student work, etc. as a suite of options to demonstrate competency as opposed to secondary measures.</p>

# Every Student Succeeds Act

## Requirements

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- Section 1111 requires states to continue statewide tests for students:
  - Reading/Language Arts and Math
    - Grades 3-8
    - Once in high school
  - Science
    - Once in each of grades 3-5, 6-9, and 10-12
- States must implement high-quality, valid, reliable, and fair annual assessments that are the same for all students
- States may partially assess academic achievement delivered in the form of portfolios, projects, or extended performance tasks

# Every Student Succeeds Act

## Requirements

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- **State assessments must provide for**
  - Participation in assessment of all students
  - Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities and English learners
  - Alternative assessments for students with significant cognitive disabilities
  - Individual student interpretive, descriptive, and diagnostic reports regarding achievement
  - Results that can be disaggregated within each state, local education agency, and school



# Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority

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- Section 1204 allows the U.S. Department of Education secretary to give “innovative assessment demonstration authority (IADA)” in the first 3 years to:
  - Up to 7 participating state educational agencies (or consortia)
  - Consortia can include up to 4 state educational agencies
- IADA gives states or consortia flexibility to
  - Develop a new innovative assessment system (IAS) to test students against its challenging state academic standards
  - Start small, piloting the IAS in a limited number of districts and schools before implementing statewide
  - Use IAS for accountability and reporting instead of the current statewide test in participating schools during the pilot

# Requirements

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- IADA states may propose a variety of IAS, including:
  - Performance tasks and simulations.
  - Competency-based assessments.
  - Multiple assessments (e.g., curriculum-embedded, interim, or through-course tests) given throughout the year.
- IAS must produce an annual summary of grade-level achievement aligned to state standards
- IAS may include:
  - All required grades and subjects OR
  - A subset of required grades and subjects (e.g., an innovative science assessment in each grade span, an innovative reading assessment only in elementary schools).



# Requirements

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- A state must continue administering its statewide assessments in all schools in any grade or subject not developing an IAS
- IAS must generate results that are valid, reliable, and **comparable** for all students and subgroups of students
  - To demonstrate comparability with statewide assessment:
    - Assess all students using statewide tests in each grade span with IAS
    - Assess a representative sample of students in the same school year on both the IAS and statewide test in each grade span
    - Incorporate a significant portion of common items on both tests
    - Use another state-determined methodology that will provide an equally rigorous, statistically valid comparison for all students and subgroups

# Requirements

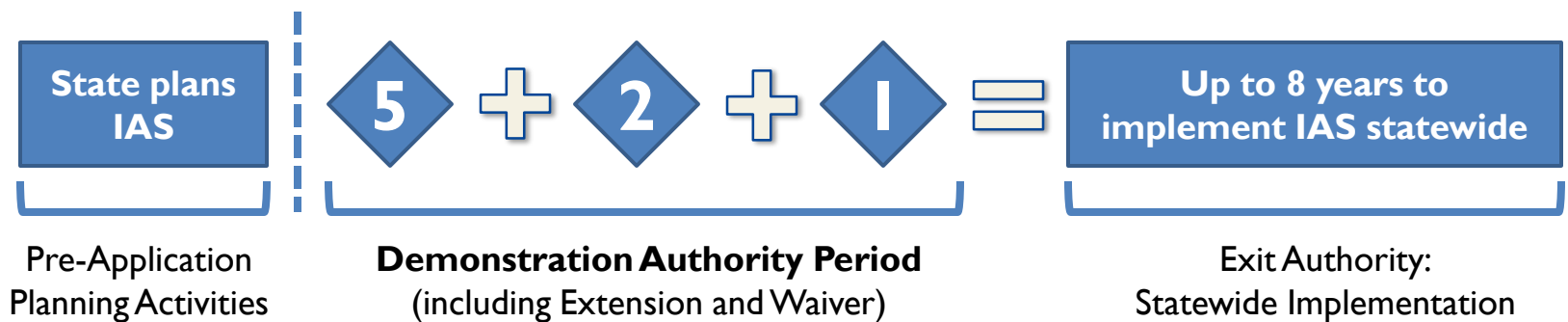
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- State proposals for IAS must include:
  - Evidence of consultation with experts and support from stakeholders
  - Demonstration of alignment, quality, and fairness of the test
  - Assurances that standards and assessment requirements under ESSA are met
  - Demographic and related information from participating school districts
  - Descriptions of state rationale,
  - Performance metrics for the test to ensure validity and reliability
  - Availability of technology, expertise, funding, professional development, and other resources for implementation



# IADA Timeline

- IADA states must implement IAS statewide by the end of the demonstration authority period (up to 8 years)
  - Planning years are not part of demonstration authority timeline
  - IADA states must scale IAS over a period of 5 years
  - If IAS has not been implemented statewide at the end of the 5 year period, IADA state may request a 2 year extension
  - After the extension, IADA state may request a 1 year waiver to submit evidence for federal peer review of IAS



# IADA Timeline

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- After statewide implementation
  - States must submit IAS for federal peer review
    - Determines if IAS may be used to meet Title I, Part A requirements for statewide assessments and accountability
    - Peer-review team will consist of practitioners and experts who are knowledgeable about the IAS being proposed
  - IAS must be rolled out in all schools and districts by the end of the implementation period
- The U.S. Department of Education secretary has authority to withdraw IADA at any time if the state cannot demonstrate the validity, scalability, or comparability of the IAS



# Closing Thoughts

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- Does New Mexico have a valid, reliable, and comparable proposal for IAS?
- Are IAS scalable?
  - New Hampshire's Performance Assessment of Competency Education (PACE)
- Are resources for IAS available?
- Can states join a consortium or pilot later?

