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Proposed 2025 Federal Education Budget For Educators

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is the most recent version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) which was passed in 1965. It provides 12 *formula*-allocated *grant* programs and 21 *competitive grant* programs. Formula programs are based on certain criteria for recipient students and the funds are allocated based on the number meeting those requirements.

As you return to schools, ESSA is one of the most critical budget sources for purchasing products and services. The funding programs in ESSA comprise 8-10% of a district's budget. Recipients that meet the criteria of each ESSA program have the discretion to spend the funds to meet the needs of their specific students.

ESSA funds are distributed on the federal budget calendar – October 1 through September 30. The 2025 budget will be sent to schools beginning this October 1. Below are the proposed budget highlights. But remember, this must be approved by Congress!

ESSA PROGRAM	ESTIMATE	% CHANGE YOY
Title I - Basic	18586802000	1.0%
Title I - Migrant	375,626,000	0%
Title I - Neglected & Delinquent	49,239,000	0%
Title II - Supporting Effective Instruction	2,190,080,000	0%
Title III - English Language Acquisition	940,000,000	5.6%
Title IV, Part A - Student Support and Academic Enrichment	1,380,000,000	0%
Title IV, Part B - 21st Century Community Learning Centers	1,329,673,000	0%
Title V - Rural Education and Achievement Program (SRSA)	107,500,000	-2.30%
Title V - Rural Education and Achievement Program (RLS)	107,500,000	-2.30%
Title VII - Impact Aid - Basic Support	1,468,242,000	-0.40%
Title IX, Part A - Education for the Homeless	129,000,000	0%
Special Education - Grants to States	14,393,704,000	1.30%
Special Education - Preschool Grants	425,000,000	1.20%
Career and Technical Education	1,469,848,000	2.10%



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WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR YOU?

As you look at these proposed numbers, you can see that the 2025 budget has very modest increases and some decreases over the 2024 budget. Your schools may be overly cautious to spend the money, especially after the American Rescue Plan's ESSER funds expire September 30. You may have money for maintenance of existing programs and subscription renewals.

If you are considering purchasing new programs with federal funds, make sure they will help improve student achievement or teacher quality. Check with other users to get their recommendations before making the final purchases. Get the pros and cons to help you make that final decision. Be sure the company can support the product, has evidence of efficacy, will help train your teachers to use it effectively, and it aligns with the appropriate standards.