



## Stakeholder Input for the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan Development: Activities by State

For the past couple of months, NDSC has been posting information about state stakeholder input activities on Facebook groups to assist you with state advocacy. Now we have updated and compiled state information into this document. We will continue to add states to this list, as well as update the information, to the extent possible.. Unfortunately, states are not making this information easy for stakeholders to find. Even though the information in this document may not always be up to date, the links provided are a good starting point for advocates. **If you have information about a state's stakeholder activities that is not represented in this document please send it to [ricki@ndscenter.org](mailto:ricki@ndscenter.org). A good resource for other state ESSA information, e.g. related state legislation, can be found at <http://bit.ly/1TOCmlx>.**

**A major concern is whether the states' ESSA plan development committees and/or workgroups are missing a representative of the disability community.** This means the involvement of someone that is not from the school system, because community members and parents are supposed to be meaningfully consulted in plan development. In fact, the recently released *ESSA proposed regulations specifically list "civil rights organizations, including those representing students with disabilities, English learners, and other historically underserved students," as categories of stakeholders with whom the state must engage in timely and meaningful consultation on all components of the state ESSA plan.*

Offering the disability community public comment opportunities during plan development is not meaningful consultation when the other stakeholders are on the plan development committee. NDSC has been sending the names of states that do not appear to have this representation to the U.S. Department of Education. We urge you to look into this issue in your own state. **Some states that do not have a person on their ESSA committees and workgroups who clearly represents the disability community, have instead included community organizations that more broadly represents students rights . State advocates need to determine whether these organizations can adequately represent students with disabilities and their families or whether their focus is on other groups of students.**

**If you find out that your state has been doing a poor job communicating with parents of students with disabilities about opportunities to provide input on the ESSA state plan and/or does not have community disability representation on the ESSA plan development committee and/or workgroups, please join with affiliates across your state, as well as other state disability organizations, to demand changes from your state department of education. If your state is doing a good job of stakeholder engagement, please thank your state department of education and let NDSC know.**

**NDSC encourages you to provide public input. Even if you can't attend a meeting, written comments are usually accepted by the state department of education. NDSC talking points on key issues can be found at <http://www.ndsccenter.org/wp-content/uploads/ESSA-General-Public-Comment-Talking-Points.pdf>.**

To find State Department of Education ESSA contacts for every state see the chart developed by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund at <http://bit.ly/299aj15>.

1. Alabama: <http://governor.alabama.gov/newsroom/2016/03/governor-bentley-establishes-state-implementation-committee-every-student-succeeds-act/> ESSA Implementation Committee members and meeting schedule <http://governor.alabama.gov/essa>. More information is needed to determine whether the disability community is represented. Online ESSA comment form. <https://form.jotform.com/61555715735158>
2. Alaska: ESSA conference webpage at <http://www.asdn.org/essaconference/>. March Board of Education packet is at [https://education.alaska.gov/state\\_board/pdf/16-march-packet.pdf](https://education.alaska.gov/state_board/pdf/16-march-packet.pdf). Starting on page 60 of the 350 page pdf is a flyer describing the ESSA state plan process and stakeholder input. Starting on page 63 is the list of ESSA state plan development committee members. The only parents are from the PTA and an Alaska Native organization, so there does not appear to be anyone representing disability community. You can contact the states ESSA Coordinator at [erin.hardin@alaska.gov](mailto:erin.hardin@alaska.gov). Stakeholder engagement webpage with dates of webinars is at <https://education.alaska.gov/akessa/#c3gtabs-stakeholder>.
3. Arkansas: Contact for ESSA questions and comments is Annette Barnes, Assistant Commissioner, (501)682-5891 [Annette.M.Barnes@arkansas.gov](mailto:Annette.M.Barnes@arkansas.gov)
4. Arizona: <http://www.azed.gov/hearingeveryvoice/> NDSC was told that this webpage will be updated soon for 2016 listening tour, written comments can be submitted now at <http://www.azed.gov/the-every-student-succeeds-act-comment-submission-form/>. Listening tour dates in June and beyond are posted at

<http://www.azed.gov/weheardyou/>. ESSA updates are available by signing up at <http://www.azed.gov/essa/essa-updates>. ESSA survey is at <http://www.azed.gov/essa/survey/>

5. Arkansas: ESSA webpage  
<http://www.arkansased.gov/esea-flexibility/every-student-succeeds-act-essa>
6. California: California Practitioners Advisory Group will address ESSA plan development <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/cc/cp>. Click on “Item 19 Addendum Attachment” to get a list of the members. The two people identified as representing k-12 students are from the Learning Policy Institute and Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Neither group seems to focus on students with disabilities. To get on the listserv to receive updates on ESSA in California, send a blank email to [join-essa@mlist.cde.ca.gov](mailto:join-essa@mlist.cde.ca.gov). Regional Stakeholder meetings on ESSA <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/es/essaopptopart.asp>. Online ESSA survey at <http://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fsurveys2.cde.ca.gov%2Fs.asp%3Fk%3D146490360304&h=MAQFKrlyS>.
7. Colorado: ESSA webpage is at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/essa>. Statewide “listening tour” information is at <https://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/ESSABlogPosts/statewidelisteningtour>.  
Register for the June 1 ESSA Online Listening Tour at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/essa-listening-tour-online-session-registration-25321540409> Transcripts of listening tour meetings are at <https://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/essa>. A September “back-to-school” summit will kick off the vetting process before the ESSA plan will be submitted to the State Board of Education and governor for approval and then sent to the U.S. Department of Education. No additional details about the summit were provided by CDE. Also, there was no information on the CDE ESSA webpage about who is on the ESSA committees that will be drafting of the plan and whether anyone representing the disability community is at the table. Written questions/comments can be submitted at [ESSAquestions@cde.state.co.us](mailto:ESSAquestions@cde.state.co.us).
8. Connecticut: State Department of Education ESSA contact for questions and comments is Jennifer Webb, Education Consultant- Office of the Deputy Commissioner [jennifer.webb@ct.gov](mailto:jennifer.webb@ct.gov) (806) 713-6603
9. Delaware: ESSA webpage is at <http://www.doe.k12.de.us/domain/425>
10. District of Columbia: ESSA webpage is at <http://sboe.dc.gov/page/essa-updates> Provide input <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1nzsoTYtSBTxXM8sX3CInWrLXJuLV82g1COkTHdAeqrM/viewform?c=0&w=1> (additional links on main webpage for other languages). Submit written comments here [osse@dc.gov](mailto:osse@dc.gov).

11. Florida- ESSA listserv sign-up is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/essaLS>. Questions and comments can be sent to [ESSA@fldoe.org](mailto:ESSA@fldoe.org). Online ESSA input forms are posted at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/essa.stml>. Input can be provided until July 22. There is no information about who will participate on the ESSA plan development committee. Article with timeline for state ESSA plan <http://extracredit.blog.palmbeachpost.com/2016/07/06/how-should-student-accountability-work-in-florida-fdoe-taking-public-input/>
12. Georgia: State Department of Education contact for ESSA questions and comments is Margo DeLaune, Title I Part A Director, (404) 656-4028, [m.deLaune@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:m.deLaune@doe.k12.ga.us)
13. Hawaii: List of ESSA committee members is at <http://bigislandnow.com/2016/04/29/ige-names-essa-team-members/> There is no clear disability representation. ESSA Feedback can be sent to [ESSA@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:ESSA@notes.k12.hi.us). Strategic plan webpage (will include ESSA changes) is at <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/VisionForSuccess/AdvancingEducation/StrategicPlan/Pages/home.aspx>. ESSA webpage is at <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/VisionForSuccess/AdvancingEducation/StriveHIPerformanceSystem/Pages/ESSA.aspx>. Town hall meetings <http://www.hawaiistateptsa.org/uploads/8/8/1/6/8816023/essaflyerkidani.pdf>.
14. Idaho: ESSA Workgroup information is at <http://bit.ly/1TiYXUV> The application to provide stakeholder input into ESSA plan was announced April 18 and the application period ended shortly thereafter. No public list of who is on the workgroups was found to check for disability representation. Idaho timeline for plan development is at <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/topics/post-leg/files/2016/presentations/6-2-Idaho-Timeline-for-ESSA-Consolidated-State-Plan-Development.pdf>.
15. Illinois Listening Tour information is at <http://isbe.net/essa/>. Report on ESSA listening tour is at <http://isbe.net/essa/pdf/ESSA-tour-report-0616.pdf>. The appendix with notes from each meeting is at <http://isbe.net/essa/pdf/ESSA-tour-report-appendix-0616.pdf>. A summary of all the written comments submitted so far is at <http://isbe.net/essa/pdf/ESSA-comments-0616.pdf>. Written comments on state plan development can be sent to [essa@isbe.net](mailto:essa@isbe.net).
16. Indiana: <http://www.doe.in.gov/student-services/every-student-succeeds-act-essa> (blank as of 6/16/16)
17. Iowa: State Department of Education contact for ESSA questions and comments is David Kelly, Deputy Director, (515) 281-3333, [david.tilly@iowa.gov](mailto:david.tilly@iowa.gov)

18. Kansas: ESSA webpage is at <http://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Early-Childhood-Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA>. ESSA 2015-16 Advisory Committee Membership list is at <http://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/Learning%20Services%20Documents/ESEA%20Membership%202015-16R.pdf>. No representatives from the disability community are on this committee, but state disability groups are looking into this issue. Written questions and comments on ESSA can be submitted to [ESSAquestions@ksde.org](mailto:ESSAquestions@ksde.org)
19. Kentucky: ESSA webpage is at [http://education.ky.gov/comm/Pages/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-\(ESSA\).aspx](http://education.ky.gov/comm/Pages/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-(ESSA).aspx). There will be an Accountability Steering Committee addressing ESSA plan development. The first meeting will occur in early June. Webpage with membership for this committee and meeting dates/minutes is at <http://education.ky.gov/CommOfEd/adv/Pages/Commissioner%E2%80%99s-Accountability-Steering-Committee.aspx>. Written ESSA plan input can be submitted at [KyEdListens@education.ky.gov](mailto:KyEdListens@education.ky.gov)
20. Louisiana: ESSA web page with schedule for statewide stakeholder input meetings in July and August is at [https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/about-us/every-student-succeeds-act-\(essa\)](https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/about-us/every-student-succeeds-act-(essa)) Written comments can be submitted at [ESSALouisiana@la.gov](mailto:ESSALouisiana@la.gov).
21. Maryland: ESSA Stakeholder Committee Members are listed at <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/programs/essa/docs/ESSAMembership.pdf> The minutes of first meeting, which includes the meeting schedule is at <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/programs/essa/docs/ESSAStakeholderMinutes032416.pdf> The Director of Maryland Disability Law Center, who also has a daughter with significant disabilities, was added to the ESSA Stakeholder Committee after disability advocates pushed back on state's failure to include a disability representative.
22. Massachusetts: Accountability feedback survey is at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/news/news.aspx?id=21623>. The email address for ESSA input is at [esea@doe.mass.edu](mailto:esea@doe.mass.edu) Document from June MA Board of Education on stakeholder engagement <http://www.doe.mass.edu/boe/docs/fy2016/2016-06/item16-OutreachPlan.pdf>
23. Michigan: Main ESSA webpage [http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818\\_76731---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_76731---,00.html) Stakeholder activities are described at [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/ESSA\\_Notes\\_06-02-2016\\_525878\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/ESSA_Notes_06-02-2016_525878_7.pdf) Sign up for virtual parent group at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WG8NRCCG> If you are a teacher sign up for virtual teacher group <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WG8NRCCG>

Sign up for ESSA email updates

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=MIMDE\\_145](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new?topic_id=MIMDE_145)

Documents for plan development

[http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818\\_76731\\_76733---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_76731_76733---,00.html)

24. Minnesota: Input meeting schedule is at <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/ESSA/MDE035276> Input can be emailed to [mde.essa@state.mn.us](mailto:mde.essa@state.mn.us). Updates on state plan development will be posted at <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/ESSA/StatePlan/index.htm>. The timeline is at <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/MDE034998>.
25. Missouri: The only mention of ESSA stakeholder involvement found on the state department of education website is in a PowerPoint from February saying stakeholder involvement is a “next step” <http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/February-2016-Powerpoint-ESSA.pdf>.
26. Montana: List of members for ESSA workshops is at [http://www.opi.mt.gov/Media\\_Center/News\\_Updater/NewsStories/2016-03-24\\_105008.html](http://www.opi.mt.gov/Media_Center/News_Updater/NewsStories/2016-03-24_105008.html). One parent is listed. There is no obvious disability representation other than school personnel (or membership from any civil rights organization).
27. Nebraska: Minutes from the March meeting of the Committee of Practitioners (COP) state that the COP will be one of the stakeholder groups making decisions for ESSA plan development and that they should think about adding members, including parents of struggling students. These minutes with a list of attendees is at <https://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Documents/Main%20Page/2016-03-15%20COP%20March%20Minutes.pdf>.
28. Nevada: ESSA Advisory Group information is at [http://www.doe.nv.gov/Boards\\_Commissions\\_Councils/ESSA\\_Adv\\_Group/ESSA\\_Advisory\\_Group/](http://www.doe.nv.gov/Boards_Commissions_Councils/ESSA_Adv_Group/ESSA_Advisory_Group/) This group will develop the state ESSA plan. The member list shows that the Urban, Latin and Asian Chambers of Commerce and the United Way are involved, but there are no organizations representing students with disabilities. There are a few parents on the Advisory Group, but there is no way to tell if any of them have a child with a disability. On this web page there is a link on the left to information on six workgroups and their meeting schedules. The first meeting is June 28, 2016. All the meetings are open to the public. In the workgroup document there are links to the email addresses of the leaders of each workgroup and stakeholders can submit comments to these leaders.
29. New Hampshire <http://www.education.nh.gov/essa/advisory-teams.htm> Scott Marion, an expert in accountability with experience in high quality regular and alternate assessments is running the accountability advisory team. There are no membership lists

posted for the advisory teams, nor an email address for ESSA questions and comments. NDSC has been told by the state department of education that other stakeholder input activities will be planned for the future.

30. New Jersey: ESSA webpage is at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/ESSA/>. March 29, 2016 memo that includes discussion of future stakeholder engagement plans is at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/nonpublic/memos/032916ESSA.pdf>. Email address for written comments and questions is [ESSA@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:ESSA@doe.state.nj.us). [Survey about reporting on school performance \(school report cards\)](#)  
<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=146435782314>.
31. New York: Governor Cuomo's Assistant Secretary for Education has reached out to NDSC. We have provided some names of parents to be involved in ESSA plan development. They are waiting to see federal regulations before starting work on state plan. Question or comments can be sent to [ESSA@NYSED.GOV](mailto:ESSA@NYSED.GOV)
32. North Carolina Input meeting schedule is at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/newsroom/news/2015-16/20160406-01?&print=true>. You can provide written input on ESSA by going to <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/newsroom/lets-talk/>. Then scroll down and click on the topic "Every Student Succeeds Act." Also you can email input to [lou.fabrizio@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:lou.fabrizio@dpi.nc.gov). The timeline, posted at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/program-monitoring/succeeds/>, indicates that Committee of Practitioners (COP) will meet to develop the ESSA plan from June-July, with stakeholder input from the meetings in May. A list of the COP members was not found so NDSC was unable to determine whether there is disability representation.
33. North Dakota: ESSA Planning Committee webpage is at <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/schoolstaff/FTP/ESSA/PlanningCommittee/>. Committee membership is listed at <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/uploads/1389/ESSAPlanningCommitteeMembers.pdf>. Pathfinder Parent Group appears to represent the disability community.
34. Ohio: Sign up for updates from ODE at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/OHED/subscriber/new> and pick ESSA from the dropdown menu. Written questions and comments can be submitted at [essa@education.ohio.gov](mailto:essa@education.ohio.gov). Ohio Q&A's on ESSA including discussion of plans for stakeholder engagement is at <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-%E2%80%93-Ohio%E2%80%99s-Answers-to-Que>. Dates for stakeholder input meetings are at <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA>

35. Oregon: ESSA webpage is at <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=5493>. <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=5512> is the ESSA Work Groups webpage. There is an ESSA Advisory Committee as well as four work groups. Stand for Children has representatives on the Advisory Committee and the Accountability work group. The Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs is represented on the Accountability work group. Building Excellent Schools together has a representative on the Educator Effectiveness work group. The School and District Improvement work group includes a PTA representative. These four community groups may be representing the disability community. There does not appear to be any community member representing student's rights on the Standards and Assessment work group. Written input can be sent to [ESSA.Oregon@state.or.us](mailto:ESSA.Oregon@state.or.us).
36. Pennsylvania: ESSA webpage <http://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act.aspx#.V0mzzucrLLs>. There are four work groups focused on ESSA plan development. The membership lists are at <http://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/About%20PDE/ESSA/ESSA%20Work%20Group%20Rosters.pdf>. The Pennsylvania Partnership for Children is on the Assessment work group. A staff attorney for the Education Law Center, which represents various groups of students, including those with disabilities, is on the Accountability work group. The Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children is on the Educator Certification work group. Sign up for email updates or submit public comment at [RA-edESSA@pa.gov](mailto:RA-edESSA@pa.gov).
37. South Carolina: ESSA webpage is at <http://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/every-student-succeeds-act-essa/>. Written comments on the ESSA state plan can be submitted at [essa.comments@ed.sc.gov](mailto:essa.comments@ed.sc.gov). No mention of specific consultation with any civil rights organizations, including disability organizations, for ESSA state plan development.
38. South Dakota: ESSA webpage is at <http://doe.sd.gov/secretary/essa.aspx>. This page has links for four work groups that are developing the ESSA state plans. None of these groups appear to have representatives from any civil rights organization, including any organizations representing students with disabilities.
39. Tennessee: ESSA webpage <https://www.tn.gov/education/section/essa>. The announcement of the listening tour is at <https://www.tn.gov/education/news/42529>. The state mentions a variety of stakeholder groups that will be engaged, but no mention of the disability stakeholders. Written ESSA input can be provided at <https://www.tn.gov/education/topic/essa-feedback-form>. There is also a specific parent-student form at <http://www.tn.gov/education/topic/essa-parent-student-feedback-form>. The list of working groups that will be developing the Tennessee ESSA state plan and the names and affiliations of members can be found at



<http://www.tn.gov/education/topic/essa-working-groups>. There are e members from some civil rights organization, but none from a disability organization.

40. Texas: Commission on Next Generation Assessments and Accountability System webpage is at <http://tea.texas.gov/2804Commission.aspx>. There is a link to a Commission membership list on that webpage. There is no representation for the disability community. Written input can be sent to [essa@tea.texas.gov](mailto:essa@tea.texas.gov).
41. Vermont: ESSA webpage is at <http://education.vermont.gov/essa> and contains information on opportunities for stakeholders to be involved in plan development, which is being done in cycles. Read the instructions on the ESSA webpage in order to express your interest via a survey in providing input. Sign up for updates at <http://education.vermont.gov/news/field-memos>.
42. Virginia: SOL innovation committee is charged with developing recommendations for issues related to state ESSA implementation. The members of this committee are listed at the bottom of this press release.  
<http://governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/newsarticle?articleId=15815> No members of the disability community are listed. The “other public hearings” listed at the bottom of this webpage are considered public input opportunities for ESSA  
<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/boe/meetings/index.shtml>
43. Washington: Consolidated ESSA Plan Team information is at <http://www.k12.wa.us/ESEA/ESSA/pubdocs/ESSAConsolidatedPlanTeam.pdf>. Two members of the Special Education Advisory Council are on the Team. The ESSA webpage <http://www.k12.wa.us/ESEA/ESSA/> also lists many work groups including with - with Disabilities work group. Minutes of the April 27th meeting for this workgroup, with members names, is at <http://www.k12.wa.us/ESEA/ESSA/StudentsWithDisabilities/pubdocs/20160427StudentsWithDisabilitiesSummary.pdf> Get on the email list for ESSA plan development updates at [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAOSPI/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=WAOSPI\\_315](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAOSPI/subscriber/new?topic_id=WAOSPI_315) Public forums scheduled for ESSA <http://www.k12.wa.us/esea/essa/forums.aspx>
44. Wisconsin: General information page on ESSA is at <http://dpi.wi.gov/esea>. Equity in ESSA Stakeholder Council press release and list of Council members is at [http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2016\\_59.pdf](http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2016_59.pdf). The Public Policy Director for Disability Rights Wisconsin is on the Council. Registration for ESSA input meetings to be held late June and July is at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MdsSWsQEo9vpms0FYvj9bfWsvnxFIHDRhH-WtywOLT4/viewform?c=0&w=1>. Form for online feedback is at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MJNn6nHP6qCtlLScMjpKO5WG6o\\_6\\_ilgmYCsJ1la2Uw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MJNn6nHP6qCtlLScMjpKO5WG6o_6_ilgmYCsJ1la2Uw/viewform).

45. Wyoming: ESSA Town Hall meetings (scroll down for list of dates)  
<https://edu.wyoming.gov/blog/tag/every-student-succeeds-act/> Online public comment  
form <https://edu.wyoming.gov/blog/2016/06/07/essa-comment/>

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