



Every Student Succeeds Act

Teacher Empowerment

The Every Student Succeeds Act ensures that teachers' voices are part of decision-making at the federal, state, and local levels—a major improvement over No Child Left Behind's one-size-fits-all approach to educating students.

KEY PROVISIONS

Moves decision-making to the people who know the names of the students they educate while maintaining supports that ensure zip codes do not determine the quality of education

Incentivizes supports and interventions that are **tailored to local needs** while preserving the historic federal role in protecting the most vulnerable: children in poverty, students with disabilities, and English-language learners

Calls for **committees of practitioners** where teachers and paraeducators (with recent classroom experience), parents, and community members can work together to improve their local schools

Offers grants that could be used to support initiatives to **increase diversity** in the teaching workforce

Makes resources available to states that could be used to develop or strengthen **teacher induction and mentoring programs**

Provides a definition of **professional development** embedded in research based on standards developed by teachers—for example, Learning Forward's *Standards for Professional Learning*

Allows district funds to be used to enhance **collaboration and teacher-led professional development** aligned with students' learning needs

Prohibits the federal government from mandating **teacher evaluations** or defining **teacher effectiveness**

Expands the reach of **collective bargaining** to cover:

- Targeted school supports and improvements in Title I
- Professional development, pay based on professional growth, the Teacher and School Leader Incentive Program (formerly called TIF), and all other provisions of contracts impacted by Title II
- Community schools in Title IV

Requires consultation with **organizations representing educators** in multiple places, ensuring that teachers and their local unions have a say in decision-making

