



## **Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants Program Title II-A of ESSA**

**Request:** Provide full funding for Title II-A in FY20

**Current** Funding Level: \$2.055 billion

**Authorized** Level: \$2.295 billion

### **Background:**

#### **The Importance of Effective Educators**

Research shows that effective teachers and school leaders significantly influence student achievement. High quality professional development is essential but unfortunately many teachers, particularly those in small and isolated districts, do not have access to these advancement opportunities.

#### **Title II-A — Revised and Strengthened in ESSA**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) renewed the federal commitment to Title II-A. This included affirming the program's ed tech emphasis on helping teachers and school leaders effectively integrate technology into curricula and instruction and promoting high-quality instruction and instructional leadership in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics subjects, including computer science.

The reauthorized Title II-A - the Supportive Effective Instruction State Grants Program - serves as a vital federal supplement to State and school district efforts to ensure that educators have access to high quality professional development, including those offered online. The new program incorporated new evidence requirements and a more rigorous definition of professional development. It also revamped formula program benefits by helping educators use education technology, increase content knowledge and classroom practices; promoting leadership, coaching, and mentoring; offering specialized training to meet student needs; and implementing support for effective instructional materials and innovative technologies. This training funding includes a focus on equipping educators with the knowledge and skills they need to use technology for instruction, conduct data analysis and protect student privacy, communicate effectively with students and families, use assessments for learning, and more.

#### **History of Appropriations**

Despite the bipartisan reauthorization of Title II-A in ESSA, both the President and the House of Representatives called for significant cuts to Title II-A in the last several years. Congress was able to maintain level funding for the program in FY18 and 19 as a result of a budget deal to raise federal spending caps and the Senate's strong support for the program. Because the deal expires this year, Congress must once again strike a deal to raise the spending caps allowing it to fully fund Title II-A.

## Title II-A Talking Points

- **FUNDING IMPACT:** For FY20, Congress must enact a spending deal that allows it to maintain the investment of at least \$2.055 billion for Title II-A of the Every Student Succeeds Act. If Congress does not enact a budget deal at levels similar to last year, education funding, including Title II-A is in serious jeopardy.
- **POSITIVE STORY:** This important source of professional development funding helps my State/school district to meet our teachers and school leaders' professional learning needs, including helping them use technology to support student success, protect student data privacy, and more.
- **IMPACT IF NO FUNDING:** Without adequately funding Title II-A, our nation's educators and school leaders will not have access to the professional development opportunities they need to better prepare the nation's students for success after graduation.