

How to Begin Implementing ESSA in Your State

Determine if your state [has already submitted](#) their state plan to the Department. If your state already submitted a plan, and you (or other members of the profession) were unable to contribute to its development, take this opportunity to [evaluate the plan](#) and determine what opportunities might exist for the profession to engage.

If your state has not submitted a plan yet, find out who at the state level is implementing Title II (to assist you, AACTE has created [a list of state contacts](#) available to members in the Resource Library).

- Find out what your state chapter is planning regarding advocacy and ESSA implementation to coordinate your efforts.
 - *If you need assistance in determining whom to contact in your state chapter, please visit [AACTE's website](#).*

As you work with colleagues in developing a plan, here are some key things to consider:

- Discover how your state defines alternative routes to licensure or certification, which is the prevailing definition for Title II. You might even be offering such a program and not yet know it.
- Review the allowable uses of funds for the state portion of the allotment and consider:
 - What are you currently doing that you would like to scale up for a region or all of the state?
 - What do you want to create within the 21 allowable uses?
 - Who are/could be your partners?
 - What need of your state could your idea meet?
- Review the allowable uses of funds for the local education agency portion of the allotment and consider:
 - What do your local education agency (LEA) partners need that falls within the allowable uses of funds?
 - Who else in your department/school/college of education (or across campus) could you work with to meet these LEA needs?
 - Who else can partner with you to meet the LEA needs?