Well-Rounded Education and ESSA

Title IV Part A: Student Support and Academic Enrichment

Well-Rounded Education: Title IV, Part A

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains specific language that allows school districts to utilize Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants (Title IV, Part A) for programs and activities that support student access to a well-rounded education. The purpose of a well-rounded education is to provide an enriched curriculum and education experiences to all students. Programs and activities carried out under Title IV, Part A must be coordinated with other school and community-based services and may be conducted in partnership with institutions of higher education and other entities.

Enriched Content

- Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)
- Arts – music, dance, media arts, theater, and visual arts
- Foreign language instruction
- Health and Physical Education
- Civics instruction
- Environmental education
- Social emotional learning

Engagement Strategies

- College and career counseling
- Accelerated learning programs – dual or concurrent enrollment and early college high school programs
- Project-based learning
- Out of school time opportunities – before/during school and during breaks
- Programs and activities that promote volunteerism and community involvement

Examples of Potential Uses of Title IV, Part A Funding

- Purchase curriculum to implement Social Emotional Learning strategies in all grade levels.
- Hire new staff or dedicate additional time for school counselors to meet with students to discuss and implement High School and Beyond planning.
- Add new enrichment activities – by connecting with community volunteers or hiring additional staff and purchasing supplies – such as coding or robotics.
- Contract with an outside provider to bring training to the district, or pay the registration and travel costs for staff to attend targeted professional learning activities that will help staff incorporate the arts and physical movement into different content areas.

Please note: All activities should address a need identified through the district needs assessment process and/or stakeholder engagement. They should fit within an overall coordinated effort as opposed to a stand-alone event.
Links to Additional Resources

The Arts
Advanced Placement
College and Career Counseling
Computer Science
Dual Credit
Education Technology
Education for Environment and Sustainability
Expanded Learning Opportunities Guide
High School and Beyond Planning

International Baccalaureate
Mathematics
Running Start
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)
Volunteer Centers of Washington
Washington 21st Century Community Learning Centers
World Languages

For more information:

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