Making the Most of Ed Tech Under The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

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Educational Technology Cooperative
Webinar December 7, 2018

Session Objectives: Participants Will

1. Learn about opportunities and resources for educational technology under ESSA

2. Learn about strategies to help make the most of ed tech investments

3. Discuss questions and ideas to strengthen state work

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Opportunities and resources for educational technology under ESSA

1. Context
2. State work

Context

SREB's Educational Technology Cooperative

Context: ESSA
POLL

QUESTION :

How familiar are you with the role of ed tech in improving K-12 education in your state, *per your state's ESSA plan*?

ANSWERS (must pick 1):

Not familiar

Familiar

I participated in development of my state's plan

Context: ESSA

- **Reauthorizes** the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the national education law pertaining to K-12 education

- **Emphasizes** technology as one of a range of resources to better serve all students, especially in
  - Title I: for instruction, assessment, school improvement, accountability and reporting
  - Title II: for educator development and support
  - Title IV: for creating 21st century schools

- **Enables states and districts** to integrate title funds and combine them with other funding sources

Context: ESSA

Title IV Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants (SSAEG)

- Formula funding for states and LEA subgrants
- Foci
    1. Well-rounded education (>20%)
    2. Safe and healthy students (>20%)
    3. Technology for achievement and digital literacy (remaining; infrastructure <15% this)
- Uses
    – Direct services for students
    – Professional development for educators
    – Salaries
    – Resources and equipment

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Context: Recent State Legislation
2015-2018

- Schools, student courses or educator professional learning dedicated to technology or computer science: AL, AR, FL, LA, MD, MS, NC

- Planning at the state level for technology: LA

- Data privacy or security: MD, VA

- Open Educational Resources (OER)
  - Higher ed.
    - Created a state virtual university that uses OER: AR
    - Required policies to encourage the use of OER: FL, MD, TX, VA
  - K-12: *see next few slides*

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State Work: Ed Tech In ESSA Plans

In their ESSA plans, few states mention much about technology or digital learning resources – even re: SSAEG and 21st century learning centers.

Most frequently mentioned are:

- Online toolboxes for educators
- Virtual professional learning for educators

Also listed at least once are:

- Online student courses and assessments
- Data dashboards and virtual planning tools
- OER repositories

Highlights: DE, NC

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State Work:
Recent K - 12 OER Initiatives

- MD: SB 424/HB 967 (2017) Required the SEA and state university system to recommend how to provide all K-12 students with high-quality, low-cost and OER materials

- TX: HB 3526 (2017) Required the commissioner to establish a web portal that includes OER

- WV: House Bill 3089 (2018) Required counties adopting digital materials to provide students with computer equipment to use them

- **All states' efforts to align instructional materials – including OER – to college- and career-readiness standards**, 2014-16: SREB Insights

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State Work: Figuring Out If Ed Tech Initiatives Are Working

***We need to better assess the effectiveness.***

- Before selection: The [EdTech Efficacy Research Academic Symposium](#) found that most ed software developers don't use third-party evaluations and most educators don't insist on independent evidence.

- During or after use: SREB's [studies](#) of state professional learning and instructional materials alignment efforts found that few states studied the effectiveness of their efforts, many of which included the use of technology.

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Make The Most of Ed Tech Under ESSA (And All Ed Tech!):

Strategies to help states make better investments

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Strategy 1: Integrate funding streams to work smarter not harder

States and local programs can use ESSA and two other major federal statutes *together* to further the effective use of ed tech. from Pre-K to the workforce.

Every Student Succeeds Act, 2015 (ESSA)

Perkins V, 2018 (Perkins)

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, 2014 (WIOA)

Timing: States can create and update their plans in tandem.

2019: ESSA, Perkins

2020: ESSA, Perkins, WIOA

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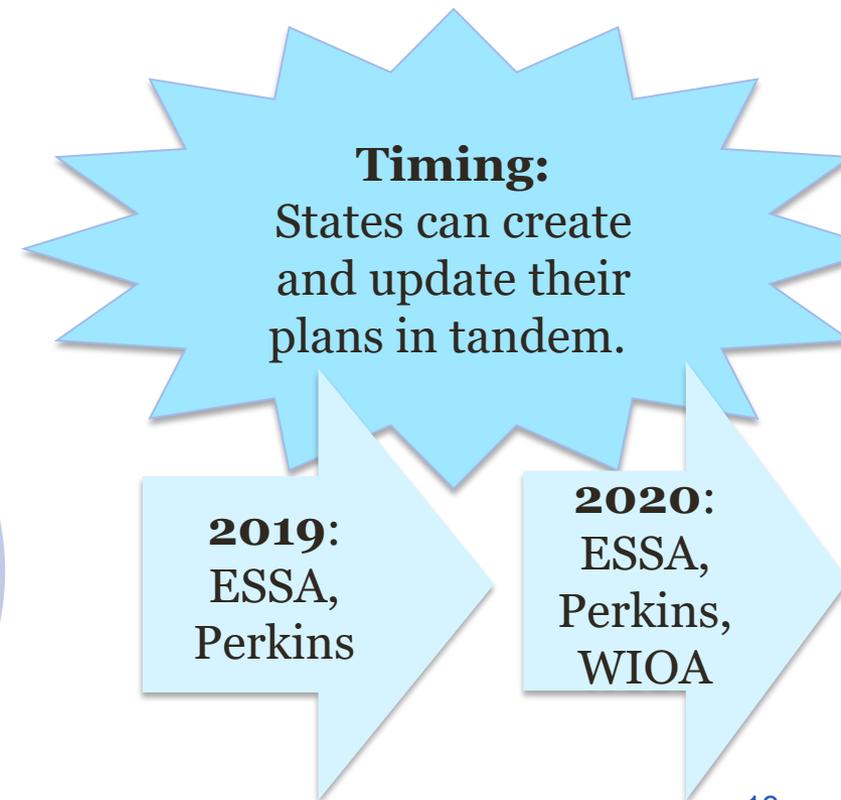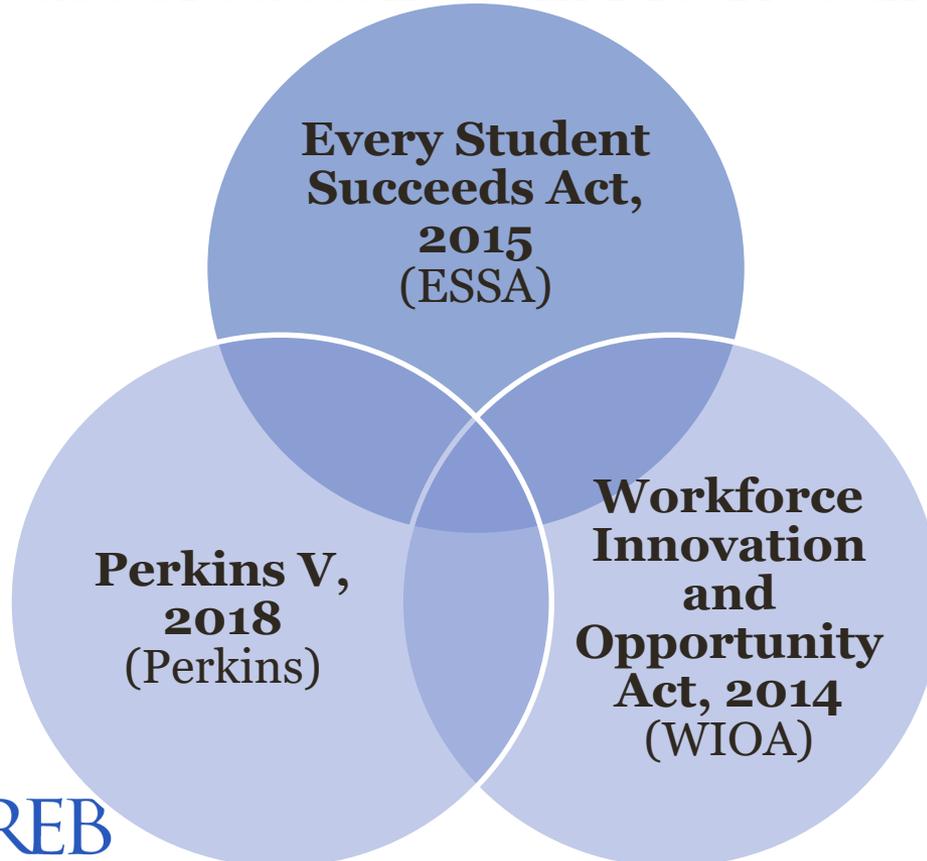
Strategies:
POLL

QUESTION :

How familiar are you with the ways that ESSA, Perkins and WIOA foster the integration of efforts from Pre-K to workforce?

ANSWERS (must pick 1):

Not familiar

A little familiar

Very familiar

Served	PK-12 or Youth *ESSA, Perkins, WIOA*	Adults *Perkins, WIOA*
Funded	K-12 SEA (must/may) *ESSA, Perkins, WIOA*	+ Higher ed. (may) *Perkins, WIOA*
Focus	**Academics** **Career and technical education** **Technology, digital literacy** **College and career readiness** **Support services** *ESSA, Perkins, WIOA*	+ **Workforce training** + **Economic development** *WIOA*
Programs	**Flexibility** to focus on local needs and strategies **Coordination** across statutes + may combine Perkins and WIOA plans **Partnerships** between K-12/secondary schools, higher ed., others **Professional development and technical assistance** must address equity and using data and technology *ESSA, Perkins, WIOA*	
Accountability and Data	**Progress** toward postsecondary attainment → **Earn** credentials → **Achieve** career success, economic security States develop, support, align **data systems** for annual reporting *ESSA, Perkins, WIOA*	

Strategy 2: Assess Effectiveness

To make best use of education dollars, we must determine the effects of ed tech on adult practice and student outcomes.

Great resources include

- Expert third-party reviews
  - EvidenceForESSA, What Works Clearinghouse

- Experts + educator-created tools
  - The Ed Tech Rapid Cycle Evaluation Coach

- Efforts in other states
  - SREB's regional reports on SREB Insights (materials and professional development)

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Discussion

Questions and ideas to strengthen state work
+
How can SREB help?

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Let's Share:
Questions and Ideas For Making the Most of Ed Tech

- Under ESSA
    - Instruction, OER, assessment
    - School improvement, planning
    - Accountability and reporting
    - Educator development and support
    - Improving use of technology and digital literacy
- Integrating efforts under ESSA with those under Perkins, WIOA and other funding sources
- Evaluating effectiveness
- Other

…Where do we go from here?

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How Can SREB Help:
POLL

QUESTION :

To help you and your state strengthen the use of ed tech under ESSA – or Pre-K to workforce! – what kinds of SREB support would be useful?

ANSWERS (pick as many as apply):

- Information about what other states are doing
- Resources and tools to support planning, implementation and evaluation
- Opportunities to collaborate
- Services and programs
- Other

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Thank you!

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