

The Honorable Richard Shelby
United States Senate
Chairman, Senate Appropriations
Committee
Washington DC, 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
United States Senate
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations
Committee
Washington DC, 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
United States Senate
Chairman, Subcommittee on LHHS-Ed and
Related Agencies
Washington DC, 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on LHHS-
Ed and Related Agencies
Washington DC, 20510

May 7, 2018

Dear Senators Shelby, Leahy, Blunt, and Murray:

The undersigned national and state organizations write to request that the Committee provide full funding for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant program, found under Title IV, Part A of the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The SSAE grant program, authorized at \$1.6 billion for fiscal year 2019 (FY 2019), supports three important education areas: 1) safe and healthy students activities, such as providing comprehensive mental and behavioral health services to students and implementing gun violence prevention programs; 2) increasing student access to a well-rounded education, such as: STEM; computer science and accelerated learning courses; physical education; the arts; music; foreign languages; college and career counseling; effective school library programs; and, 3) providing students with access to technology and digital materials and educators with technology professional development opportunities.

We are grateful that Congress recognized the importance of Title IV-A and provided \$1.1 billion in FY 2018 and strongly urge Congress to fully fund the SSAE program in FY 2019. This will provide districts enough funds and flexibility to make meaningful investments in priority program areas determined by their needs assessments. Additionally, this funding level obviates the need for a competitive option and allows the flexible block grant to operate as Congress intended, as a formula grant that benefits all districts equitably.

On behalf of the millions of students, parents and educators that we collectively represent, we urge you to please appropriate full funding in FY 2019 for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant program under Title IV-A of ESSA and allow states and districts to make meaningful investments in programs that are critical to student success.

Sincerely,

National Organizations

Advance CTE
Afterschool Alliance
Alliance for Excellent Education
American Counseling Association
American Dance Therapy Association
American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA)
American Orff-Schulwerk Association
American Psychological Association
American School Band Directors Association
American School Counselor Association
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)
Committee for Children
Consortium for School Networking (CoSN)
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Council of School Supervisors and Administrators
Drum Corps International
Education Through Music, Inc.
EducationPlus
El Sistema USA
Futures Without Violence
Girl Scouts of the USA
International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)
League of American Orchestras
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Little Kids Rock
Museum of Science, Boston
Music for All, Inc.
Music Teachers National Association
NAMM Foundation
National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)
National Association of School Nurses

National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)
National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)
National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
National Federation of State High Schools Association (NFHS)
National Music Council
National PTA
National Science Teachers Association
National Summer Learning Association
Percussive Arts Society
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity
Progressive Music
Quadrant Research
QuaverMusic
School Social Work Association of America
SHAPE America - Society of Health and Physical Educators
Software and Information Industry Association
The College Board
Trust for America's Health
VH1 Save The Music Foundation

State and Local Organizations

Alabama

Alabama Music Educators Association
Anniston City Schools
Conecuh County Board of Education
Dothan City Schools
Elmore County Public Schools
Lowndes County Public School District
Midfield City Schools
Sheffield City Schools
Talladega City Schools

California

California Music Educators Association
Organization of American Kodály Educators
United Administrators of Oakland Schools
Western Association for College Admission Counseling
WURRLYedu

Colorado

Colorado Society of School Psychologists

Connecticut

Hartford Principals' and Supervisors' Association
Thompson Association of School Administrators

Delaware

Delaware Music Educators Association

Florida

Florida Association of School Psychologists (FASP)
Florida Music Education Association

Georgia

Georgia Association of School Psychologists
Georgia K12 CTO CoSN Chapter

Hawaii

Hawaii ACAC
Hawaii Society for Technology in Education
Hawaii Music Education Association

Idaho

Idaho Music Educators Association
Idaho School Psychologist Association

Illinois

Illinois Computing Educators (ICE-IL)

Indiana

Indiana Association of School Psychologists

Indiana Music Educators Association

Iowa

Iowa ACAC

Iowa School Psychologists Association

Kansas

Kansas Music Educators Association

Kentucky

Kentucky Assoc for Psychology in the Schools (KAPS)

Kentucky Association for College Admission Counseling

Kentucky Music Educators Association

Louisiana

Louisiana School Psychological Association

Maine

Maine Music Educators Association

Maryland

Maryland Music Educators' Association

Maryland Society for Educational Technology (MSET)

Public School Administrators & Supervisors Association of Baltimore City

Strathmore

Massachusetts

Boston Association of School Administrators & Supervisors

Michigan

Gordon Institute for Music Learning
Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling
Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL)
Michigan Association for Media in Education
Michigan Association of School Psychologists

Minnesota

Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet
Minnesota Association of School Psychologists
Minnesota Music Educators Association
Minnesota Music Educators Association
Minnesota School Psychology Association

Mississippi

Mississippi Music Educators Association

Missouri

Midwest Education Technology Community (METC)
Missouri Association for College Admission Counseling
Missouri Association of School Psychologists
Missouri Music Educators Association

Montana

Montana Educational Technology Association (META)
Montana Music Educators Association

Nebraska

Nebraska Educational Technology Association (NETA)
Nebraska Music Education Association
Nebraska School Psychologists Association

Nevada

Nevada Association of School Psychologists

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Music Educators Association

New Hampshire Music Educators Association

New Hampshire Society for Technology in Education (NHSTE)

New Jersey

New Jersey Association of School Psychologists

New Jersey Music Educators Association

New Mexico

New Mexico Music Educators Association

Rocky Mountain Association for College Admissions Counseling

The New Mexico Society of Technology in Education

New York

New York Association of School Psychologists

New York State Association for Computers and Technologies in Education (NYSCATE)

New York State School Music Association

Yonkers Council of Administrators

North Carolina

North Carolina Music Educators Association

North Carolina Technology in Education Society

North Dakota

North Dakota Association of School Psychologists

North Dakota Music Educators Association

North Dakota Music Educators Association

Ohio

Ohio School Psychologists Association

The Ohio Association for College Admission Counseling

Oklahoma

Oklahoma School Psychological Association

Pennsylvania

Association of School Psychologists of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Association for Educational Communications and Tech (PAECT)

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association

Rhode Island

Rhode Island Music Education Association (RIMEA)

The Rhode Island School Psychologists Association

South Carolina

Southern Association for College Admission Counseling

Tennessee

Shelby County Schools

Tennessee Association of School Psychologists

Tennessee Educational Technology Association (TETA)

Tennessee Music Education Association

Texas

Texas Association for College Admissions Counseling

Texas Association of School Psychologists

Utah

Cache County School District

Utah Association of School Psychologists

Utah Coalition for Educational Technology (UCET)

Utah Music Educators Association

Vermont

Vermont Association of School Psychologists

Vermont Music Educators Association

Virginia

Virginia Music Educators Association

Virginia Society for Technology in Education

Washington

Washington State Association of School Psychologists

West Virginia

West Virginia Music Educators Association

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Association for College Admission Counseling

Wisconsin Music Educators Association

Wisconsin School Psychologists Association

Wyoming

Wyoming Music Educators Association

Wyoming School Psychology Association