



Montana

Office of Public Instruction

Superintendent Denise Juneau

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for Title I, Part A, will go into effect for the 2017-2018 school year, and it does not require Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (PSC) for Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, and restructuring. Recent transition guidance from the United States Department of Education (USED) states that such schools will not be required to provide Supplemental Educational Services (SES) or Public School Choice (PSC) beginning with the 2016-17 school year provided that an alternate to SES is developed, and students who have transferred through PSC are allowed to remain in the school that they have transferred to.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction is taking comments regarding the transition plan being proposed for an alternate to the requirement that schools in improvement, corrective action, and restructuring offer Supplemental Educational Services (SES) for 2016-2017. The OPI proposal for the alternative for SES is as follows:

1. Districts with schools in improvement, corrective action, and restructuring must provide one of the following for those students most at-risk of failing, or who are failing to meet state standards: before or after school tutoring, summer school, extended day intervention strategies, etc.
2. Districts will develop a system to identify those students who are eligible for these services using multiple, educationally relevant criteria.
3. Districts will determine the funds needed to run the program.
4. Districts will be required to monitor and evaluate the program for effectiveness.
5. This plan must be developed by school personnel and parents of affected students. Evidence of these planning meetings (agendas, sign-in sheets, and minutes) must be kept by the district.
6. Districts will describe this plan in the ESEA Consolidated Application for school year 2016-2017 in the E-grants system.

7. Districts may provide these services themselves and do not have to do so through third party providers. There will be no state approved providers for the 2016-2017 school year.

The window for taking comments on this waiver will run from April 22, 2016, at 8:00 AM, until April 27, 2016, at 5:00 PM. Comments can be sent to the following email address: opiwaivers@mt.gov.

If you have questions about the proposed waiver, please contact Jack O'Connor, Assistant Title I Director, Montana Office of Public Instruction, 406-444-3083 or jocconnor2@mt.gov.