



Dear Partners in Education,

December 13, 2017

State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen and Office of Public Instruction (OPI) staff received initial feedback from the U.S. Department of Education (Department) today on [Montana's proposed education plan under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act](#). The OPI and the Department held a technical conference call today, as well as received [written feedback from the Department](#).

The OPI received positive initial feedback. Overall, the Department requested relatively minor and technical changes in addition to clarification on certain aspects of Montana's plan. Superintendent Arntzen has 15 days to consider the feedback and submit Montana's plan to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos for her approval.

Superintendent Arntzen will submit Montana's plan to the Department by December 28th. Feedback on the plan can be sent to ESSAinput@mt.gov. The staff at OPI feels confident in the ability to make these minor adjustments and resubmit the Montana ESSA Plan prior to the December 28th deadline set by the Department of Education.

Thank you for your support and involvement. If you would like to have additional discussion on any area of the feedback once you have reviewed it, let me know and I will set up an opportunity for in-depth discussion.

More information on Montana's ESSA Plan and the Department's feedback can be found on the [OPI's ESSA page](#).

Thank you,

[Susie Hedalen](#)

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Please send questions to ESSAinput@mt.gov