ESSA, Title IV, Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Program

Title IV Part A, also known as Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE), is part of the Every Student Succeeds Act reauthorization of the ESEA. The SSAE program is intended to improve students' academic achievement by increasing the capacity of state educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and local communities to provide all students with:

- **Access to a well-rounded education**
- **Improve school conditions for student learning, safe and healthy students**
- **Improve the use of technology to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students**

Montana used a formulary grant to ensure all districts in MT that received Title I allocations received funding under Title IV Part A. For the current school year, the minimum award for these Title IV-A grants in MT is $10,000. SSAE program provides LEAs flexibility to tailor Title IV-A investments to meet the needs of their unique student populations. To maximize the use of SSAE program resources, SEAs, LEAs, and schools are encouraged to partner with community organizations to offer programs and services to students.   Schools are encouraged to consider how other federal, state, and local funds may be leveraged to support a holistic approach to well-rounded education.

- School districts that receive an allocation ***above $30,000*** must conduct a needs assessment and must then spend 20% of its grant on safe and healthy school activities and 20% on activities to provide a well-rounded education programs. The remaining 60% of the money can be spent on all three priorities, including technology. However, within technology there is a 15% cap on spending for devices, equipment, software and digital content.

- If districts receive an allocation ***below $30,000***, the law does not require a needs assessment. District must spend money on activities in at least one of the three categories. If districts chose to spend in the well-rounded and/or safe and healthy students' programs, an allocation must not be less than 20% of the total allocation. If districts chose to spend in technology, once again there is a 15% cap on spending for devices, equipment, software and digital content.

All districts have the option to use their Title IV A funds to run a Title IV A program to support the needs of their local school district and community or schools can also choose to transfer all or a portion of the funding into Title I or II.

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Safe and Healthy Students	Well-Rounded Education Programs	Effective Use of Technology
Ensuring all students are healthy, feel safe and supported is central to the shared work across programs. Research shows that when schools and districts effectively focus on creating a safe, healthy, and supportive environment, students are more likely to engage in the curriculum, achieve academically, and develop positive relationships.	Providing all students with access to a well-rounded education as a means of improving academic achievement. Ensuring all students have access to a holistic well-rounded education is central to the shared work across programs.	Promoting digital literacy of all students and providing professional development to the educators that teach and support them. Ensuring that all students build the capacities necessary for thriving as 21st century learners and workforce contributors, program initiatives fall under three categories, Digital Citizenship, Personalized Learning and Improving Equity for All Learners.
Supporting safe and healthy students with: • comprehensive school mental health • drug and violence prevention • training on trauma-informed practices • bullying prevention • dropout prevention, re-entry programs & transition services • child sexual abuse awareness & prevention • promoting supportive school discipline • suicide prevention • health & physical education • mentoring & school counseling • schoolwide positive behavioral interventions & supports	**Supporting students with well-rounded educational opportunities including:** • foreign languages, arts, and music education • STEM programming: science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science instruction and activities • American history, civics, economics, geography, government, and environmental education instruction • programming in career and technical education, health, physical education, and any other subject with the purpose of providing all students access to an enriched curriculum and educational experience • improving access to AP courses or Dual enrollment opportunities	**Supporting the effective use of technology by:** • high quality professional development in utilizing technology • carrying out innovative blended learning projects • delivering specialized or rigorous courses using technology • providing students in rural, remote, or underserved areas with technology resources • building technological capacity and infrastructure (max 15% for devices/infrastructure)

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