



TO: District Superintendents, Superintendents, Charter School Administrators

FROM: Commissioner MaryEllen Elia

SUBJECT: ESSA State Plan Training for Superintendents and Chief Accountability Officers

DATE: April 27, 2018

This memo is to inform District Superintendents, Superintendents, and Charter School administrators of training being scheduled by the New York State Education Department (NYSED, or “the Department”) on the accountability provisions of the State’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan.

On December 10, 2015, ESSA was signed into law by President Obama. This bipartisan measure reauthorized the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which provides federal funds to improve elementary and secondary education in the nation's public schools and requires states and school districts, as a condition of funding, to take a variety of actions to ensure all children, regardless of race, income, background, or where they live, receive the education they need to prepare them for success in postsecondary education, careers, and citizenship. After an extensive, 18-month long public engagement process, the Department, with Board approval, submitted New York State’s ESSA plan to the USDE for review on September 17, 2018. On January 17, 2018, the USDE approved the State’s ESSA plan, with implementation beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.

The Department will host in-depth, two-day ESSA training sessions across the State for Superintendents, the Chief Accountability Officers of their districts, and Charter School Administrators. During the training, Department staff and I will outline plans for ESSA implementation and the supports that the Department will be providing to districts to assist with implementation. The training sessions will focus primarily on a thorough examination of the various components of New York’s Accountability System under the approved ESSA plan, such as school and district identification methodologies and intervention requirements. This training is intended for individuals who require a detailed explanation of the accountability metrics, methodologies, and required interventions to execute their professional responsibilities. It is strongly suggested that Superintendents and Chief Accountability Officers attend one of the sessions, since the information provided will enable a smooth transition to the new accountability system in the 2018-2019 school year.

The training sessions will take place at these venues, on these dates, across the State:

| Location | Venue | Date | Registration Closes |
|-------------|---|-----------------|---------------------|
| Westchester | Westchester Friendship Worship Center 261 E. Lincoln Ave Mount Vernon, NY 10552 | May 9-10, 2018 | May 4, 2018 |
| Rochester | Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Educational Services Center Building 3599 Big Ridge Road Spencerport, NY 14559 | May 14-15, 2018 | May 7, 2018 |
| Albany | Empire State Plaza Convention Center 100 S Mall Arterial, Albany, NY 12242 | May 16-17, 2018 | May 9, 2018 |
| Long Island | Western Suffolk BOCES Conference Center 31 Lee Avenue Wheatley Heights, NY 11798 | June 19-20 2018 | June 12, 2018 |
| Long Island | Western Suffolk BOCES Conference Center 31 Lee Avenue Wheatley Heights, NY 11798 | July 10-11 2018 | July 3, 2018 |

*Specific locations will soon be posted to the Department's ESSA website at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/essa.html>

The first day of the training will start at 8:30 am and end at 5 pm. The second day will start at 8:30 am and end at 12:30 pm. Through a variety of presentations and hands-on activities, participants will have an opportunity to use data from their districts and schools to understand how the new accountability system works.

Spaces for each training will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendance is limited to the Superintendent or superintendent designee and Chief Accountability Officer for each district, and the Chief Charter School Administrator and the data specialist for each charter school.

A separate session for New York City public school educators will be conducted in June in collaboration with the New York City Department of Education. Details will be sent to selected New York City educators shortly.

Please register for one of the training sessions by completing a brief survey, which may be found at:

Westchester County:

<https://www.research.net/r/Westchester-ESSA-Training-for-Superintendents-and-Chief-Accountability-Officers>

Rochester Area:

<https://www.research.net/r/Rochester-ESSA-Training-Session-for-Superintendents-and-Chief-Accountability-Officers>

Albany County:

<https://www.research.net/r/Albany-ESSA-Training-Session-for-Superintendents-and-Chief-Accountability-Officers>

Suffolk County June:

<https://www.research.net/r/Suffolk-County-June-ESSA-Training-Session-for-Superintendents-and-Chief-Accountability-Officers>

Suffolk County July:

<https://www.research.net/r/Suffolk-County-July-ESSA-Training-Session-for-Superintendents-and-Chief-Accountability-Officers>

If you would like more information about these trainings, please send your questions to ESSA@nysed.gov. For more information about the State's approved ESSA plan, and specific information regarding how it was developed, please visit the Department's ESSA web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/essa.html>.

cc: District Superintendents
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