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# 2019–20 Every Student Succeeds Act Comprehensive Support and Improvement Local Educational Agency Application for Funding

**Due: February 28, 2020**

## Application Overview

### Purpose

Section 1003 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides resources and assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) to improve student outcomes in schools that meet the criteria for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI).

The ESSA requires LEAs to submit an application in order to receive ESSA, Section 1003 funds for CSI. As a condition of funding, the LEA must partner with stakeholders, including school principals and other school leaders, teachers, and parents to locally develop and implement a plan for the school to improve student outcomes. School planning and LEA support and assistance for each school receiving comprehensive support is incorporated into the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) processes.

For Federal guidance on Supplement not Supplant for school improvement, see question 29a, page 21 to 22 located at <https://go.usa.gov/xdcPV>.

**The California Department of Education (CDE) is accepting applications from LEAs with schools meeting the criteria for CSI.**

### Statutory Authority

ESSA Section 1003–School Improvement (<https://go.usa.gov/xdcPF>), pages 9 through 11.

ESSA Section 1111(d)(1)–Comprehensive Support and Improvement (<https://go.usa.gov/xdcEg>), pages 33 through 35.

Budget Act of 2019 Chapter 23 Section 2 Item 6100-134-0890 Schedule (2) located at <https://go.usa.gov/xdcEb>.

### Grant Information

The Budget Act of 2019 appropriated $127,082,000 in ESSA, Section 1003 local assistance funding for CSI. The project period for this application begins March 25, 2020, and ends on September 30, 2021. ESSA, Section 1003 funds are available to each eligible LEA that submits an approvable application and will be allocated on the basis of a formula. The formula takes into consideration the total number of schools identified for CSI, statewide.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be an LEA with schools that meet the criteria for CSI. An LEA is defined as a county office of education, school district, or direct-funded charter school.

Under the ESSA, the state must identify schools in need of additional assistance based on various criteria. This requirement went into effect for the first time in 2018–19. Schools were again identified for CSI in January 2020 based on the 2019 California School Dashboard.

Schools are eligible for CSI if they are a public high school with a graduation rate below 68 percent or at least the lowest-performing 5 percent of Title I schools.

CSI criteria and program information are located at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/csi.asp>.

### Allowable Activities and Costs

As a condition of funding, the LEA must partner with stakeholders, including school principals and other school leaders, teachers, and parents to locally develop and implement a CSI plan for each school meeting the criteria for CSI.

School planning and LEA assistance for each school that meets the criteria for CSI will be incorporated into the LCAP and SPSA planning processes. If ESSA, Section 1003 funds for CSI are used to implement actions/services to meet a goal articulated in the LCAP, those CSI funds must be included in the LCAP. ESSA, Section 1003 funds for CSI that are distributed from the LEA to the school must be included in the SPSA. In addition, CSI interventions/strategies/activities must align to the goals, actions, and services identified in the LEA’s LCAP.

Under the ESSA, CSI plans are required to be evidence-based. Section 8101(21)(A) of the Elementary and Secondary Act, as amended by the ESSA, defines an evidence-based intervention as being supported by *strong evidence, moderate evidence, promising evidence,* or evidence that *demonstrates a rationale.* ESSA, Section 1003 funds require the use of “evidence-based” interventions that meet higher levels of evidence. The table below lists ESSA’s top three levels of evidence.

**Demonstrate a statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes:**

| Evidence Level | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Level 1: Strong Evidence | Based on at least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental study |
| Level 2: Moderate evidence | Based on at least one well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study |
| Level 3: Promising Evidence | Based on at least one well-designed and well-implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias |

The United States Department of Education’s non-regulatory guidance on evidence-based interventions is located at <https://go.usa.gov/xdcEU>.

ESSA, Section 1003 funds must be prioritized and focused toward the area(s) identified for improvement for each school based on their needs assessments and root cause analysis. Funds can only be spent on evidence-based interventions/ strategies/activities directly related to the following CSI improvement plan development and implementation efforts:

* Building capacity
* Partnering with stakeholders­­­­
* Conducting needs assessments and root c­­­­ause analysis
* Selecting and implementing evidence-based interventions/strategies/activities
* Using data and outcomes to monitor and evaluate improvement efforts
* Reviewing/identifying and addressing, through implementation of the CSI plan, resource inequities, which may include a review of LEA- and school-level budgeting

Federal planning requirements are established in the California *Education Code* Section 64001 (<https://go.usa.gov/xdcE6>) and the Approved LCAP Template 2019 located at <https://go.usa.gov/xdcEz>.

Plan instructions for the LCAP and SPSA are located at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/>.

CSI program requirements and information are located at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/csi.asp>.

### Disallowable Activities and Costs

The use of federal funds, including ESSA, Section 1003 funds must be consistent with the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. OMB information is located at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/learn-grants/grant-policies/omb-uniform-guidance-2014.html>.

In addition, the California legislature stipulated in AB 74 that ESSA, Section 1003 funds shall not be expended to hire additional permanent staff.

For Federal guidance on Supplement not Supplant for school improvement, see question 29a, page 21 to 22 located at <https://go.usa.gov/xdcPV>.

### Grant Reporting Requirements

Actual expenditures for each performance period within the grant period shall be reported to the CDE as part of regular grant management and administration. The table below details reporting information and timelines.

| Report Name | Reporting Data | Performance Period | Reporting Due Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Report 1 | * Expenditures * Budget Summary | March 25, 2020, to June 30, 2020 | July 31, 2020 |
| Report 2 | * Expenditures * Date the CSI Plan was Approved and/or Adopted | July 1, 2020, to October 31, 2020 | November 30, 2020 |
| Report 3 | Expenditures | November 1, 2020, to February 28, 2021 | March 31, 2021 |
| Report 4 | Expenditures | March 1, 2021, to June 30, 2021 | July 31, 2021 |
| Final Report and Grant Evaluation | * Expenditures * Final Budget Summary * Grant Performance Report | July 1, 2021, to September 30, 2021 | October 31, 2021 |

In addition to standard expenditure reporting requirements for each performance period, the LEA must submit a Budget Summary with Report 1. The Budget Summary will combine LEA- and school-level budget amounts by Object Code for each authorized funding category, as applicable. In addition, Report 2 requires the LEA to report the date the CSI plan was approved/adopted by the school and LEA. The Final Report and Grant Evaluation requires the LEA to submit final expenditure data, a Final Budget Summary, and a Grant Performance Report. The CDE will provide additional guidance for reporting requirements by Spring 2020. If the CDE does not receive the required reports, funding may be delayed or the CDE may bill the LEA to recover funds distributed to the LEA.

### Apportionments

The first apportionment is 25 percent of the total LEA allocation and is based on an approved 2019‒20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding. Subsequent apportionments for each grant performance period are based on claimed expenditures less prior cumulative payments.

Note: Reported expenditures are used for the purpose of calculating the LEA’s apportionment. The use of federal funds must be consistent with the OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; ESSA requirements, and requirements in the 2019‒20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding.   
  
The acceptance and approval of reported expenditures does not preclude the CDE in any way from conducting program monitoring or audits.

The CDE will process apportionments approximately one month after the final date of each reporting period.

### Grant Monitoring

LEAs and schools that receive ESSA, Section 1003 funds for CSI will be monitored through the CDE’s Federal and Program Monitoring process.

### Application and Funding Results Timeline

| Activity | Due Date |
| --- | --- |
| Funding Profile Posted to the CDE Web Page | January 2020 |
| 2019–20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding  Release Date | February 5, 2020 |
| 2019–20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding  Webinar Walk-through | February 6, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. |
| 2019–20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding Due to the CDE | February 28, 2020 by  4 p.m. |
| 2019–20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding  Review by CDE Staff | March 2020 |
| Funding Results and Schedule of Apportionments Posted to the CDE Web Page | April/May 2020 |

### Technical Assistance

The CDE will conduct a webinar to walk through the process to complete the 2019–20, ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding. The webinar will be conducted on February 6, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. For log on details, please visit the CSI web page located at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/csi.asp>.

### Application Process

The 2019–20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding is an online application that includes six sections: (1) Intent to Apply; (2) General Assurances, Certifications, Terms, and Conditions; (3) Local Educational Agency Applicant Information; (4) Narrative Responses; (5) 2019–20 Comprehensive Support and Improvement Preliminary Funding Plan; and (6) Signatures.

In order to receive ESSA, Section 1003 funds, each eligible LEA must complete and submit the 2019–20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding to the CDE by the date specified in the Application and Funding Results Timeline. The LEA will receive email confirmation upon submission. The CDE will review each LEA application. If the LEA wishes to revise its online application after submission, the LEA must resubmit the application prior to the application due date as specified in the Application and Funding Results Timeline.

The CDE is not able to modify the application information after submission. Incomplete or late applications may delay funding.

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Section 1: Intent to Appl**y**

Each local educational agency (LEA) with schools meeting the criteria for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) must submit the 2019–20 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) CSI LEA Application for Funding. Any LEA that chooses to not apply for CSI funding is asked to submit this application to the California Department of Education (CDE) to communicate its intent. This will allow the CDE to reallocate the amount of funds available to those LEAs choosing to apply for funding.

Pursuant to Section 1111(d)(1)(B) of the ESSA, upon notification from the CDE, the LEA shall, for each school identified by the CDE and in partnership with stakeholders, locally develop and implement a plan for the school to improve student outcomes.

Choosing not to accept ESSA, Section 1003 funds **does not** relieve the LEA from meeting its statutory obligations under ESSA, Section 1111(d)(1). ESSA, Section 1003 provides resources and assistance to the LEA with schools meeting the criteria for CSI.

**The LEA must indicate if it intends to apply for funding.**

* The LEA **intends** to apply for fiscal year (FY) 2019 ESSA, Section 1003 funds. By checking this box, the LEA must complete the remaining five sections of this application.
* The LEA **does not intend** to apply for FY 2019 ESSA, Section 1003 funds. By checking this box, the LEA understands its statutory obligation to meet the requirements of the ESSA, Section 1111(d)(1). The LEA will be redirected to Section 6 to sign and submit this application.

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## Section 2: General Assurances, Certifications, Terms, and Conditions

General assurances, certifications, terms, and conditions are requirements of applicants and sub-grantees as a condition of receiving funds. The signed grant application submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE) is a commitment to comply with the general assurances, certifications, terms, and conditions associated with the grant.

### General Assurances and Certifications

The general assurances and certifications are available on the CDE Funding Forms web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/fm/ff.asp>. Applicants do not need to sign and return the general assurances and certifications with the grant application. Instead, applicants must download the general assurances and certifications to keep them on file and available for compliance reviews, complaint investigations, or audits.

### Terms and Conditions

The 2019–20 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Local Educational Agency (LEA) Application for Funding must be electronically signed by the authorized agent of the LEA and submitted to the CDE using the online application.

The first apportionment will be processed upon review and approval of the 2019–20 ESSA CSI LEA Application for Funding. Subsequent apportionments will be processed based upon approved expenditures reported by the LEA.

All funds must be encumbered, expended, and legally obligated within the dates designated and must not exceed the maximum amount indicated in the Apportionment Letter.

In addition, the LEA agrees to comply with the following state and federal program terms and conditions:

1. Utilize the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) processes to locally develop and implement a CSI plan that meets federal requirements for each school receiving funds under Section 1003 of the ESSA for CSI.
2. Align improvement strategies and activities to the goals, actions, and services in the LEA’s LCAP.
3. Monitor schools receiving ESSA, Section 1003 funds for CSI.
4. Use a rigorous review process to recruit, screen, select, and evaluate any external partners, other than the county office of education and other agencies within the state system of support that the LEA would partner with to develop and implement the plan for CSI.
5. Align other federal, state, and local resources to carry out activities supported with funds received.
6. Modify practices and policies as appropriate, to provide operational flexibility that enables full and effective implementation of the plans to improve student outcomes in schools meeting the criteria for CSI.
7. Assure that each school that the LEA serves will receive all of the state and local funds it would have received in the absence of ESSA, Section 1003 funds.
8. Ensure that ESSA, Section 1003 funds are spent as indicated in this application, and agree that funds will be used only to provide support to the school/s meeting the criteria for CSI, including locally developing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and approving plans for the school to improve student outcomes.

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## Section 3: Local Educational Agency Applicant Information

SAMPLE Unified School District (County: SAMPLE)

LEA Address:

Preliminary FY 2019 LEA Allocation: $$$

County/District Code 00 00000

NCES: XXXXXXX DUNS: XXXXXXXX

Please verify if the Local Educational Agency (LEA) Applicant Information listed above is accurate then check the appropriate box below. Applicant Information can be verified on the California School Directory web page located at [https://www.cde.ca.gov/schooldirectory/.](https://www.cde.ca.gov/schooldirectory/)

The Preliminary Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 LEA Allocation can be verified at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r14/csilea19result.asp>.

LEAs can verify their DUNS number through the Online Public Update for Schools web page located at <https://www3.cde.ca.gov/opuscds/default.aspx>.

LEAs will provide the following contact information for the Primary and Secondary Grant Coordinators and the Fiscal Coordinator. If the LEA only has a Primary Grant Coordinator, please duplicate that information for the Secondary Grant Coordinator.

* First and Last Name
* Title
* Phone
* Ext.
* Email
* Fax

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## Section 4: Narrative Responses

The local educational agency (LEA) must provide complete responses to the four prompts below. Please note the character limits allowed for each prompt.

The LEA is required to utilize the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) processes to locally develop and implement a plan for the school to improve student outcomes in each school meeting the criteria for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI).

**Prompt 1**: Describe any separate planning process that the LEA will use. If the LEA will not use any separate planning process, please type **NA** for the response. **(Max 500 characters)**.

The LEA is required to utilize the LCAP and SPSA processes to monitor schools identified for CSI.

**Prompt 2**: Describe any separate monitoring process that the LEA will use. If the LEA will not use any separate monitoring process, please type **NA** for the response. **(Max 500 characters)**.

**Prompt 3**: Describe how CSI funds will be used to support the needs assessment and root cause analysis process to address the reasons for identification and to ensure that interventions/strategies/activities align to the goals, actions, and services in the LCAP. **(Max 1000 characters)**.

For the prompt below, external partners include any external service provider **other than the county office of education and other agencies within the state system of support that the LEA would partner with to develop and implement the CSI plan**.

**Prompt 4**: Describe the LEA’s rigorous review process to recruit, screen, select, and evaluate any external service provider with whom the LEA will partner. If the LEA will not partner with any external service provider/s, please type **NA** for the response. **(Max 1000 characters).**

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## Section 5: 2019–20 Comprehensive Support and Improvement Preliminary Funding Plan

| LEA Name | Preliminary FY 2019 LEA Allocation |
| --- | --- |
| SAMPLE Unified School District | $0.00 |

From the LEA’s preliminary allocation under this grant, the LEA may distribute funds among the schools meeting the criteria for Comprehensive Support and Improvement. The total amount of distributed funds must match the LEA’s preliminary allocation.

**Note:** The LEA will be required to adjust its Funding Plan when LEA allocation amounts are revised and determined to be final.

| LEA and School Name | Preliminary FY 2019Amount of Funds Distributed |
| --- | --- |
| SAMPLE Unified (District) | $0.00 |
| ABC Elementary | $0.00 |
| DEF Middle School | $0.00 |
| GHI High School | $0.00 |
| **Total Distributed** | $0.00 |

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Section 6: Signatures

### **ASSURANCES/CERTIFICATIONS/TERMS/CONDITIONS:**

**If the LEA applies for CSI funding, the following statements must be acknowledged.**

* As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I have read all assurances, certifications, terms, and conditions associated with the 2019–20 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Local Educational Agency (LEA) Application for Funding and CSI program requirements and I agree to comply with all requirements as a condition of funding.
* I certify that all applicable state and federal rules and regulations will be observed and that to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is correct and complete.

**If the LEA does not apply for CSI funding, the following statement must be acknowledged.**

* As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I confirm that this LEA **does not intend** to apply for fiscal year 2019 ESSA, Section 1003 funds and acknowledge that the LEA understands its statutory obligation to meet the requirements of ESSA, Section 1111(d)(1).

### SIGNATURE

By signing this application electronically, I, the duly authorized representative of the applicant, agree that my electronic signature is the legally binding equivalent to my handwritten signature. The LEA will provide the following information:

* LEA Name:
* Type your First and Last Name:
* Title:
* Date:
* Email:
* Phone Number:

**Note**: If the LEA wishes to revise its online application after submission, the LEA must resubmit the application prior to the application due date as specified in the Application and Funding Results Timeline.

The CDE is not able to modify the application information after submission. Incomplete or late applications may delay funding.

California Department of Education  
January 2020