NEW HAMPSHIRE

Report Card

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) gave all states an opportunity to be creative, ambitious and inclusive with their new education plans to best meet the needs of students with disabilities and close achievement gaps for all students. But did New Hampshire take full advantage of this opportunity?

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S RATINGS:

Accountability Systems: Does New Hampshire's accountability system under ESSA include students with disabilities?

Support for School Improvement: Will New Hampshire help struggling schools by providing supports that work for students with disabilities?

Inclusive Planning: Did New Hampshire align its ESSA plan with special education initiatives?

KEY:

- **Green** = Meaningful support
- **Yellow** = Partial support
- **Red** = Not supportive

HIGHLIGHTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S PLAN:

- Includes clear descriptions of evidence-based interventions to support struggling schools.

- Includes a strong description of how the state will use a Multi-tiered System of Supports to addressing bullying issues.

HOW CAN NEW HAMPSHIRE IMPROVE IT'S ESSA PLAN?

- Work together across state programs to make sure special education and general education improvement plans are aligned.

LONG-TERM GOALS FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE

Graduation Rate Goals for 2022

93.96%
ALL STUDENTS

79.62%
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

States set long-term goals for each group of students under ESSA. Setting ambitious goals for all students is essential to making sure all students can succeed.

In addition to setting lower graduation rate goals for students with disabilities New Hampshire also set lower achievement goals.

SCHOOL RATINGS

Under ESSA, most states do not include the performance of students with disabilities in their school performance ratings. This means a school could earn a high score, even if students with disabilities and other subgroups are doing very poorly.

New Hampshire does not include subgroup performance in its school rating system.

National Center for Learning Disabilities

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO MAKE SURE YOUR DISTRICT HAS AN EQUITABLE PLAN FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES UNDER ESSA?

ADVOCATE FOR STRENGTHS-BASED IEPS

- A strengths-based IEP uses students' abilities to improve weaknesses.

- IEP goals are built around the students' skills.

- Helping students identify and leverage their strengths, interests and preferences can lead to more self-awareness and self-advocacy.

ASK YOUR DISTRICT TO…

1. Use strengths-finders to identify abilities, interests and preferences

2. Prepare students to participate in IEP meetings and advocate for their needs

3. Start every IEP meeting with a discussion about strengths

4. Update IEP forms to include space to talk about strengths

5. Weave strengths into IEP goals as a way to set high expectations

Get started by visiting u.org/schoolwide and downloading our advocacy tools