

# THE MUSIC TEACHER'S GUIDE TO ESSA

As the leading company in support of music educators, the Yamaha Band and Orchestral Division has put together a quick guide to help you understand the new ESSA education law. We want to help you act on what this new law can mean for your music program, and how to gather resources and support at the ground level.

## WHAT IS ESSA?

- The Every Student Succeeds Act was signed into law December, 2015 and replaces No Child Left Behind
- Decision-making about education programs has returned to the state level
- Considerations for program strategy will go into effect in the 2017-18 school year, so the time to plan and act is now!

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- Increased funding for your music program
- Professional development support
- Expansion of Title I grant funds
- A music education for ALL children



## BE A PART OF THE PROCESS!

**You can be a part of ensuring the future of a quality music education for ALL children. Here's what you can do right now:**

- 1. REACH OUT** and get involved in your state's Music Education Coalition. These are generally organized through the state MEA chapter. Offer your commitment and service.
- 2. REINFORCE** that music is designated as part of a well-rounded education, a new provision in the law.
- 3. REMIND** state, district and community leaders, and other music and arts stakeholders about the benefits of music education, and what it means for students and communities. Provide documents and data.
- 4. REQUEST** that school & community leaders work with the school district, which will ultimately work with state education departments.



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# TEACHERS: Now is the time to join in the process!

## MEET WITH YOUR FELLOW MUSIC AND ARTS EDUCATORS.

SCHEDULED

COMPLETED

Get together with your fellow teachers and read through the new education law's ESSA music and arts toolkits. Link: [4wrd.it/NAfME\\_ESSA](http://4wrd.it/NAfME_ESSA). Plan to position your music and arts programs as central to meeting the new law's requirements.

Prepare a report indicating what resources are required to provide a "well-rounded education" to ALL students. Address the Opportunity to Learn (OTL) Standards which provide guidance on curriculum, scheduling, staffing, materials and equipment.

## PERFORM A NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF THE MUSIC PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AT YOUR SCHOOL.

What needs to be addressed in order to provide ALL students with a quality, well-rounded education that includes music in your school? Toolkit can be found at [4wrd.it/NAFME\\_ESSA](http://4wrd.it/NAFME_ESSA)

## COLLECT AND PREPARE SCHOOL CLIMATE DATA.

Provide decision-makers with the knowledge necessary to make decisions that will benefit students through music programs. Find data sources at [4wrd.it/NAMMFound](http://4wrd.it/NAMMFound) and localize the data where appropriate to show relevance within your school.

## MEET WITH YOUR PRINCIPAL.

Plan a presentation for the School Board together. Share the results of your data on how music and arts programs have contributed to the positive climate of your school, and how music, and its expansion, will fulfill the intent of ESSA's "well-rounded education" provision. Remember that ESSA is about serving ALL students!

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