

October 2016 Federal Update

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Questions will be taken at the end of the presentation.

Appropriations for FY17

Appropriations

HOUSE:

All 12 appropriations bills have moved through full committee

SENATE :

All 12 appropriations bills have moved through full committee

Congress passed Continuing Resolution (CR) through December 9, 2016, ensuring that a lame-duck session will take place.

Negotiations are in motion on whether or not to do an omnibus or several minibuses as well as the on the bills themselves.

As a Reminder: Labor-H Bill

Both the House and the Senate moved the Labor-H bill through full committee.

Neither bill saw Floor action before the congressional recess.

The House approved a \$66.8b budget for ED; vote 31-19
Zeroed out Teacher Quality Partnerships
Amendment to restore TQP by Rep. Price failed
Policy Rider prohibiting the teacher prep regs survived

The Senate approved a \$67.8b budget for ED; vote 29-1
Funded TQP at \$43.1m (flat funded)
No policy riders in this bipartisan measure

Hope for the Policy Rider?

Yes- there is hope.

In particular since little changed in the final rule on the teacher preparation program regulations.

This hope is also dependent on the use of your constituent voice.

CHALLENGES:

“Poison Pill Policy Riders” will kill the omnibus/minibuses.

We must make the case in support of the policy rider to **both sides of the aisle** so that neither side sees the language as a poison pill, but an effort that constituents support.

Final Rule on the Teacher Preparation Program Regulations

REMINDER

**ALL TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS WILL
BE RATED ANNUALLY WHETHER OR NOT THE
PROGRAM USES TEACH GRANTS.**

FYI

What is shared in this presentation are just general highlights of the overview of the final rule.

To step through the final rule only – not the comments and analysis offered by the Department – please view the [webinar](#) offered on October 24 & 25, 2016.

Remember that AACTE's specific email for the regulations has remained operational since its creation in 2014:

regs@aaacte.org

Final Rule

NOTE:

This was not the official release; the official release will be via the Federal Register and is expected this week.

What was released: 695 pages

Includes response to comments, of which there were nearly 5,000 to both the initial and supplemental NPRM, and other critical pieces (cost and burden analysis, and so forth).

This overview is taken from the regulatory language which begins on page 651.

Skepticism is necessary: the devil IS in the details.

Overview

Overall, the final rule is very similar to the initial proposal

Changes (most relatively minor) can be found in the following:

- Definitions
- Rating system
- Indicators
- Timing of Implementation (adjusting for the October 2016 release of the final rule – it was expected to be released last year when initially drafted).
- Cost Estimate (it dropped!)

Rating System

Each Individual Teacher Preparation Program in the United States will be rated annually on the following scale (there are 26,000 TPP's in the U.S.)

Effective

At-Risk of becoming low-performing

Low-performing

If you are at-risk or low performing for two years your programs can become ineligible for TEACH grants.

INDICATORS

The rating of your programs will be based on 4 indicators:

Student Learning Outcomes

Employment Outcomes

– Placement

– Retention

Survey Results

Program Approval or Specialized Accreditation

Changes in the definitions of these indicators have changed the structure a bit. Please see the webinar overview of the final rule offered on October 24 & 25, 2016.

Weighting the Indicators

The Department removes its requirements on weighting the indicators.

You might recall that in the initial NPRM, student learning outcomes needed to be weighted the most, with employment outcomes in high-needs schools with the next highest weight.

The weighting structure is now entirely up to the States.

Timeline

Shift to matching and coordinating with Title II reporting requirements.

April 30 for the Institutional Report Card to the State

October 31 for the State Report Card to the Department

2016-2017 Design and Implement the Data System

2017-2018 Pilot Year (2018 Title II reporting year)

2018-2019

2019-2020

2020-2021

2021-2022 Consequential Year for TEACH Grants

Regulatory Guidance

The Department is expected to release regulatory guidance which will further illuminate the plan and expectations on the States for implementation.

We do not know when that guidance will be out.

Many questions remain at this time for those associations and organizations representing those who will be impacted by this regulation, including higher educations, PK-12 associations, and state level organizations including state governments.

Moving Forward

There are still opportunities to engage on the regulations:

- Congressional action in the lame-duck (post-election) session.
- Congressional action in the 115th Congress which starts in January – specifically the expected work to reauthorize the Higher Education Act.
- Administration action, depending on the outcome of the elections.
- Legal actions embarked upon by affected entities.

President-Elect Action?

IF IT IS

President Clinton

Secretary Clinton's education advisors support the regulations and it is not expected that she will stop the regulations should she win the presidency.

President Trump

While extremely unpredictable in terms of how his education policy will unfold, it is expected that Mr. Trump would act stop the regulation should he win the presidency.

President Johnson ??

President Stein ??

Your Advocacy

It is important to keep your Senators and your Representative informed on where we are in the process of the regulations – especially now since there could be action starting in November on the regulations.

You can send a quick email to staff with whom you have a relationship letting them know the regs are out and linking to the regs and the statement by AACTE as well as the statement signed on to by AACTE by a coalition of PK-12, higher education and state-level organizations to just put this on their radar (links are on our [regs](#) website).

Legislation

It's an Election Year

Not much is going to happen legislatively until December.

Higher Education Act Reauthorization

A full reauthorization of HEA will not happen this year, especially given it's an presidential election year.

Groundwork will be laid for action in the next Congress.

Title II of HEA is the Teacher Preparation title containing:

- TQP
- Title II data collection
- State responsibility of identifying low performing programs
- Myriad of other programs that have never been funded

Conversations span from eliminating Title II to making some changes to it. In addition, the Administration may offer its own ideas on Title II.

Educator Preparation Reform Act (EPRA)

Introduced in Senate (S. 2419) and the House (H.R. 4471)

www.congress.gov

Supported by Higher Education and K-12

Amends Title II of HEA:

- Opens up TQP for principals
- Streamlines Title II data collection
- Deepens the incentives for states to hold teacher prep accountable by including ESSA Title II funds
- Amends TEACH grants

This bill needs more cosponsors!

ADVOCACY

Review the AACTE website on EPRA, where you will find the one pager.

Review the [webinar](#) offered in March 2016 on how to ask an elected official to cosponsor a bill.

Reach out your Representative and your Senators – both – to cosponsor EPRA.

The more cosponsors the more support a measure has. Bipartisan support is desired, so don't let party affiliation get in the way!

Implementation of ESSA

Department's ESSA Webpage

To stay updated on the latest that is released from the U.S. Department of Education it is recommended to monitor the Department's [resources webpage](#) contains a vast amount of information on rulemaking and implementation.

Time Could Be VERY Tight

State Plans, including for Title II, could be due as early as **March, 2017.**

Some states are gathering stakeholders – or starting to gather stakeholders - to engage on aspects of ESSA implementation.

Teacher Preparation is NOT required by law to be a part of the stakeholder group – especially for Title II.

- *Have you reached out to see if teacher prep is being included?*
- *Do you know if your state chapter is engaging on this issue?*

Key Items to be Aware of in ESSA

- Definition of Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) is gone
- NCLB waivers gone as of August 1, 2016
- Be sure to know how your state defines 'alternative routes to licensure/certification'
- Title II focuses on teacher recruitment, preparation and training
 - State allotments
 - State allowable uses of funds (5%) of which there are 21
 - LEA allowable uses of funds (95%) of which there are 16
 - National programs

Title II Guidance

Title II guidance is out.

<http://bit.ly/2d70yk8>

Stakeholder Engagement: REQUIRED

Stakeholder engagement is required by law for developing state and local plans:

RESEARCH what is happening in YOUR state & the districts with whom you work to guide YOUR engagement.

Check in with your state chapter to see what they are doing.

GET AT THE TABLE

Partnering: My Colleague Needs To Be Here

There is a saying:

*If you are not at the table,
chances are you are on the menu.*

While it may not be obvious throughout Title II of ESSA that teacher preparation needs to be at the table, building partnerships and collaborations to engage on opportunities in Title II will help you get to the table.

Stakeholder Engagement: Resources

- [Guiding Principles on Stakeholder Engagement as Required in ESSA, Learning First Alliance](#)
- [Let's Get This Conversation Started: Strategies, Tools, Examples and Resources to Help States Engage with Stakeholders to Develop and Implement their ESSA Plans \(CCSSO\)](#)
- [Guidance for Stakeholder Engagement in ESSA, U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [Stakeholder Engagement Provisions in ESSA, National PTA](#)

Other Suggested Areas of Engagement

The state will need to define various terms in their state plan including :

- Effective teacher
- Inexperienced teacher
- Out-of-field teacher

The state will need to describe in its consolidated plan aspects related to educator prep, including *the state's system to ensure adequate preparation of new educators*, as well as how the state plans to ensure *equitable distribution of teachers*.

Actions and Engagement

Key Advocacy Actions – October & November

Teacher Prep Regs – Update your Members of Congress on the regs and stay tuned for more resources from AACTE.

ESSA – Stakeholder and Title II engagement with K-12 and higher education colleagues – what opportunities are you creating across the state or with your LEA?

Cosponsors on EPRA – Review [webinar](#) and reach out to your Members of Congress. The number of cosponsors matters!

Resources

We have resources to support you in your advocacy work and to keep you up to date on important issues and activities happening at the federal level.

- Blogs – Ed Prep Matters
- Tweets - @AACTE, @Koolbeck
- Website
- Documents posted in resource library
- Monthly Federal update webinars
 - 2 days of the week
 - 2 different times to accommodate time zones
- Webinars on advocacy campaigns
- Webinars on immediate action needs



Questions?

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