

# Additional things every stakeholder should know about student participation in statewide assessments under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) outlines how states can use federal money to support public schools. New York State receives \$1.6 billion in federal funding each year to support its public schools.

## What are the statewide assessment participation requirements under ESSA?

ESSA requires that every state assess all students in grades 3-8 in language arts or reading and math each year. States must assess students at least once in high school in language arts and math. New York State does not have laws regarding parental rights to choose whether their children participate in state testing, but federal requirements include:

- x 95% of students in each public school, including charter schools, are required to participate yearly in required state assessments
  - o This applies to all student subgroups which include racial/ethnic groups, English language learners, low income students, and students with disabilities.
- x If requested, school districts and charter schools are required to provide parents with information on state or local policies regarding the rights of parents to choose to not have their children participate in state testing.
- x States are not required to create or change any laws they have in place regarding a parental decision on participation in assessments.

## What are some other ways to determine if a student who does not participate in state assessments

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The school must conduct a participation rate self assessment.



The school must develop a participation rate improvement plan that includes ~~an~~ analysis of the cause for low participation and a list of potential ways to solve the problem that the school will pursue in the follow 0.0032.1 (a)3.1 [(l)k99 39.m-C1.4 (a)-3. ( r)-1..( a )]TJ ET B



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