The Title IV-A Coalition is grateful for the funding boost to SSAE grant program in the FY20 omnibus

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Title IV-A Coalition, we offer the following response to the FY 2020 LHHS-Ed appropriations omnibus, which includes $1.21 billion for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant program, authorized under Title IV, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Washington D.C., December 19, 2019 — The Title IV-A Coalition is very grateful that for the third year in a row, Congress provided an increase, to $1.21 billion in FY20, for the bipartisan, flexible, SSAE block grant program. We are thankful that the House and Senate have once again recognized the importance of this flexible funding stream, which will allow districts to build on their investments to support safe and healthy students, well-rounded education, and the effective use of technology. These funds have given districts across the country an opportunity to maintain and expand the critical programs and educational services, based on their unique needs, that support a healthy school climate and robust learning opportunities for all children. In fact, in a 2019 survey of over 1,000 districts nationwide, a majority of district leaders indicated that these funds were “extremely or very important” and touted the benefit of flexibility to invest in a multitude of evidence-based programs across all three buckets supported by Title IV-A funding. Lastly, we appreciate the report language that encourages the Department of Education to collect robust data and publish reports around the use of funds as well as ensure the Department is providing adequate technical assistance to LEAs and SEAs around Title IV-A authorized activities.

We sincerely thank Congress for its continued support of the Title IV-A program and look forward to the President enacting this bill into law.

Title IV-A Coalition Members

Advance CTE
Afterschool Alliance
Alliance for Excellent Education
American Counseling Association
American Federation of School Administrators
American Heart Association
American Library Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American School Counselor Association
City Year
Committee for Children
Communities In Schools
CoSN
Educational Theater Association
Futures Without Violence
Girl Scouts of the USA
International Baccalaureate Organization
International Society for Technology in Education
League of American Orchestras
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Music Education
National Association of School Nurses
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
National PTA
National Science Teachers Association
National Summer Learning Association
School Social Work Association of America
SETDA
SHAPE America
STEM Education Coalition
The College Board
Trust for America's Health
Young Audiences, Inc.