



May 10, 2024

Dear Chair Baldwin, Ranking Member Capito, Chair Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

On behalf of the 180+ undersigned national, state, and local organizations, we urge Congress to provide \$1.6 billion in Fiscal Year 2025 for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant program, known as Title IV-A, authorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

This bipartisan flexible block grant supports investments in safe and healthy students, well-rounded education programs, and the effective use of technology in education. Robust and steady funding for Title IV-A helps ensure districts are able to provide a full array of services and learning opportunities that support the whole child and improves academic success for all students. As a formula-based program focused on the flexible, locally-determined use of funds, the grant ensures that a large number of geographically and socioeconomically diverse districts have resources they can direct in a manner that best addresses their particular needs. Title IV-A has continuously maintained bipartisan support in part because of the flexibility it affords states and districts to implement programming based on the specific needs of their school community.

Our 2023 survey of over 600 districts across the nation shows that, like Congress, district leaders also appreciate the program's flexibility. To that point, when asked about how districts invested in the many allowable uses, districts selected a wide-range of activities including, but not limited to: funding STEM and computer science programs, music and the arts, environmental education, International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement courses (IB and AP), physical education, health and wellness, professional development for use of educational technology, violence prevention, behavioral and mental health supports and much more. Survey data also reveals that without increased funding, the expansion of existing programs and creation of new programs would not be possible. Title IV-A funding has long been the funding stream to support many of the activities districts have been using ESSER dollars to support. Increased funding for Title IV-A will be especially critical as ESSER funds dry up, inflationary pressures persist, and districts look to continue these critical programs.

This federal investment is absolutely essential to supporting comprehensive student needs, ensuring a safe and healthy school environment, and increasing access to a well-rounded education necessary for students to thrive in a modern society and workforce. For these reasons, we urge Congress to fund the Title IV-A flexible grant program at \$1.6 billion in FY 2025.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to working with you to ensure these investments continue to support districts, educators, and students in a manner tailored to their unique needs.

Sincerely,

Afterschool Alliance	Educational Theatre Association
Alfred Publishing, LLC	El Sistema USA
All4Ed	Feierabend Association for Music Education (FAME)
American Atheists	Food Research & Action Center (FRAC)
American Camp Association	GIA Publications, Inc.
A. Cuthbertson Consulting	Girlstart
American Federation of School Administrators	GLSEN
American Heart Association	Gordon Institute for Music Learning
American Library Association	HBCU National Band and Orchestra Dir
American Occupational Therapy Association	
American Orff-Schulwerk Association	
American Psychological Association	
American School Counselor Association	
American String Teachers Association	
Americans for the Arts	
Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)	
CASEL	
Chiefs for Change	
CMA Foundation	
Coalition for Community Schools	
Committee for Children	
Conn Selmer	
Council for Exceptional Children	
Council of Administrators of Special Education	
Educational Theatre Associate	

Music Teachers National Association

Music Travel Consultants

Music Will

National Afterschool Association

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

National Art Education Association (

Montana Music Educators Association
Montana School Counselor Association
Nebraska Music Education Association
Nevada Music Educators Association
New Hampshire Music Educators Association
New Mexico Music Educators Association
New Jersey Music Educators Association
The Rhythm and Blues Preservation Society, New Jersey
New Mexico Music Educators Association
NMSCA
Education Through Music
New York State School Counselor Association
NYSSMA
City Lore
Arts North Carolina
NC Thespians
NC-ASTA
NCDEO
North Carolina Bandmasters Association
North Carolina Music Educators Association
North Carolina Theatre Conference
Ohio Music Education Association
Ohio School Counselor Association
Oklahoma Music Educators Association
OKMEA
Oregon Music Education Association
PA School Counselors Association
Pennsylvania Music Educators Association
Rhode Island Music Education Association
South Carolina Music Educators Association
South Dakota Music Education Association
Tennessee Art Education Association
Tennessee School Counselor Association
Rutherford County Schools, Tennessee
Lone Star State School Counselor Association
Utah Music Educator Association
Vermont Arts Council
U.S. Virgin Islands School Counselor Association
Virginia Music Educators Association
Virginia School Counselor Association (VSCA)
Inspire Washington
Washington Music Educators Association
Washington School Counselor Association
West Virginia Music Educators Association

West Virginia School Counselors Association
Western States Arts Federation | WESTAF
Wisconsin Music Educators Association
Wyoming Music Educators Association