

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Early Learning Requirement
ESSA requires all local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving Title I funds to support early learning initiatives and undertake activities that increase coordination with early childhood education programs. ESSA emphatically states that the coordination of Early Learning activities must be conducted by the LEA. Even if they elect not to use Title I resources to fund early learning activities.

Why implement Title I Early Learning programs?

Title I early learning programs are intended to assist children most at risk of failing to meet the State's challenging academic standards based on multiple, educationally related, objective criteria. Title I funds can be used to create or enhance existing preschool programs to prepare children to enter elementary school with the social, emotional, language, cognitive, and early reading skills they need to succeed. Providing quality early childhood experiences helps to ensure that children in Title I schools have the foundation to meet challenging state academic achievement standards and experience success throughout elementary and secondary school.