



Every student deserves a high-quality education. Providing the right tools and resources necessary is critical, especially for traditionally underserved students.

This week's newsletter highlights how states are using promising practices and innovative policies to drive educational equity for all students.

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State Spotlights



The **Tennessee** Department of Education revised its school accountability system to ensure the state's traditionally underserved students play a role in each school's rating. Now, 40 percent of each school's rating is based on the performance of its low-income, special education, and African-American, Hispanic, and Native American students.

All schools in Tennessee will receive an overall A-F rating based on a dashboard of other metrics, including individual ratings for how a school serves each of its student groups.

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The **Minnesota** Department of Education employs equity specialists who work in the field with classroom teachers to develop their capacity around equity.

These specialists engage with community members and find the best way to support teachers in being responsive to meeting their local community needs.

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Massachusetts Department of
ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
EDUCATION

The **Massachusetts** Department of Elementary and Secondary Education created the Educator Effectiveness Guidebook for Inclusive Practice to provide frameworks, rubrics, and case studies that promote inclusive practice at the classroom, school, and district level.

These resources allow districts and schools to innovate, while providing guidance and a starting point to ensure all students have access to an equitable educational opportunity.

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To ensure the state is supporting traditionally underserved students and advancing equity, the **New York** State Board of Regents will publish annual reports on per-pupil spending and equitable access to effective teachers.

The Board of Regents is also committed to identifying inequities in resources available to schools and to using Title I School Improvement Funds to increase diversity and reduce socio-economic and racial/ethnic isolation in schools.

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The **Utah** State Board of Education is re-envisioning how to monitor and support English learners through school visits, classroom observations, and stakeholder focus groups.

Recommendations for strategic decisions related to resource allocation, the evaluation of effective language programs based on student outcomes, authentic parent engagement, and opportunities for systemic change will be distributed to districts and schools to help inform quality instruction and exemplary leadership.

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Must Read



CCSSO created the *Handbook for Developing and Monitoring the English Language Proficiency Indicator and English Learner Progress* to guide state education agencies in developing systems to measure the progress of English learners.

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Tools & Resources



NCSL's new case study, *Addressing Achievement Through Opportunity: Washington State's Approach to Closing the Gap*, takes an in-depth look at how Washington state policymakers, parents, community leaders and education advocates shifted policy priorities to focus on closing opportunity gaps for low-income and minority student groups.

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To enhance high school and postsecondary outcomes for traditionally underrepresented students, Education Commission of the States released *Early College High Schools: Model policy components*, a resource that provides an overview of the structure and impact of early college high schools and outlines key model components for policy making.

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NASBE's *Residences and Inductions Are Key to a Diverse Effective Workforce* helps state and local leaders ensure new teachers have the tools to address isolated school cultures and inadequate resources for traditionally underserved students.

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CCSSO created the Assessing Special Education Students collaborative to help states enhance assessment, accountability, and curriculum and instruction systems to provide full equity for students with disabilities.

This group of experts in assessment and special education from state education agencies, industry, and higher education identifies challenges and finds solutions for the inclusion of students with disabilities through policy and practice.

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We want to hear from you!

Send your state's stories or organization's resources to communications@ccsso.org



The States Leading campaign celebrates the progress states are making toward providing equitable education for all students through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and innovative policies in other key areas of education, such as early childhood education, teacher preparation, and career readiness, among others.

Thank you to our proud partners:

The Council of Chief State School Officers
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The National Association of State Boards of Education
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The Hunt Institute
The Foundation for Excellence in Education

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