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In this month's States Leading newsletter, we highlight North Dakota's Family Engagement Cabinet, Mississippi's state-run teacher residency - the first in the nation, New York's newsletter on all state ESSA-related news, and more.

Visit [StatesLeading.org](https://StatesLeading.org) and follow #StatesLeading on social media to learn more and join the conversation.

## ESSA

[Native EDGE](#), the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's response to **Oklahoma's** ESSA plan, held a presentation attended by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister on how the state can build exceptional educators and schools, create engaged communities, and develop internal capacity in order to make stronger connections with tribal nations.

## Stakeholder Engagement

The **North Dakota** Department of Public Instruction announced the first 23 members of the [Family Engagement Cabinet](#), a group of families who will provide insights into strengthening the relationship between families and educators.

## Community Engagement

[Ten schools and one district in Arkansas](#) will receive up to 50 days of training, coaching, and support to build and sustain a strong culture of collaboration that will enhance student learning through the **Arkansas** Department of Education's [Professional Learning Communities at Work](#) project.

## School Improvement

**Idaho** Governor Brad Little, a [Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellow](#), announced the members of his new "[Our Kids, Idaho's Future](#)" Task Force, which will formulate a five-year blueprint for improvement of and investment in Idaho's K-12 public education system.

## Teacher Development

The **Mississippi** Department of Education received a grant from the National Center for Teacher Residencies to develop the nation's [first state-run teacher residency](#).

## ESSA

The **New York** State Education Department launched [Newsline](#), an ESSA newsletter, that covers all state ESSA-related news and updates.

## Career Readiness

[Credentials Matter](#), a first-of-its-kind analysis by **ExcelinEd** and Burning Glass Technologies, examines whether the credentials students earn align with real-world employer demand.

## English Learners

The **Michigan** Department of Education will recognize students who have attained proficiency in English and one or more languages by high school graduation through the [Michigan Seal of Biliteracy](#) award.

## Civic Education

The **National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE)** is launching a new awards program called Civic Engagement Champions (CEC) to honor middle school teachers who promote their students' active citizenship in **Maryland, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Washington**.

### We want to hear from you!

Send your state's stories or organization's resources to [communications@ccsso.org](mailto: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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National Governors Association  
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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