



OPPORTUNITY + ACTION

Every Student Succeeds Act

EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS

The Every Student Succeeds Act reduces the U.S. Secretary of Education's authority in several areas, including prohibiting the Secretary from mandating educator evaluations and/or any aspects of a state's educator evaluation systems. For states to receive waivers from No Child Left Behind, the U.S. Department of Education required states to link teacher evaluations to student test scores. Now, states can construct systems that support educators' professional growth without federal mandates to use methods clearly refuted by research.

KEY PROVISIONS

- States have the autonomy to construct **educator evaluations** without interference from the federal government.
- Among the specific prohibitions, the U.S. Secretary of Education **cannot mandate** any aspect or parameter of evaluation systems, any indicators or measures of educator effectiveness or quality, or if or how states use educator evaluation information as a part of the state accountability system.

IN OREGON

Oregon created a new statewide educator (teacher and principal) evaluation system in 2012 under [Senate Bill 290](#) and in Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR). The State Board of Education made [several changes to the rules and guiding documents](#) to bring Oregon into alignment with the federal law. These changes went into effect at the start of the 2017-18 school year.

Important changes include:

- Using the statewide assessments to measure Student Learning and Growth Goals **is not required**. It is **optional** for all educators. OEA does not recommend using statewide assessment results like the Smarter Balanced Assessment to set educator goals.
- Educators are encouraged to set goals using other measures, including classroom, school-wide or district-wide assessments, often referred to as Category 2 assessments.
- School districts are **not required** to use the Oregon Matrix to assign a summative rating to educators and are also not required to include data from Student Learning and Growth goals in a summative evaluation of an educator.
- There are several guiding documents and examples of quality support and evaluation systems [available here](#).
- Educators should share these changes and documents with school and district leaders. Districts can use federal Title IIA funds to **collaboratively develop or improve** support and evaluation systems.