

Sustaining Efforts to Boost Regular Student Attendance

U.S. Department of Education Resources

This resource provides information on select **federal education funding sources and technical assistance** that can support schools to combat chronic absenteeism and boost regular attendance.

FORMULA GRANTS

Schools may use the following formula grant funds to promote student engagement and regular attendance:

Title I, Part A funds may be used on evidence-based strategies to increase attendance and instructional time.

Title II, Part A funds may be used by schools to implement evidence-based professional development programming, focused on increasing student engagement.

Title IV, Part A funds may be used to improve school conditions and create safe, positive, and healthy learning environments that support consistent student attendance.

Title IV, Part B (Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers) funds may be used to provide out-of-school time opportunities (e.g., enrichment programs before school, after school, and during school breaks) to enhance connections between students and their school, family, and community partners and encourage everyday attendance.

Title IV, Part E funds may be used to strengthen family engagement, which in turn promotes daily student attendance.

IDEA, Part B funds may be used to support schools to compensate for lost instructional time due to chronic absenteeism of children with disabilities.

Stronger Connections Grant program, authorized under the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, may be used to create safe, welcoming environments and foster regular attendance in high-needs schools.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Schools can apply for funding to continue innovative programs they created or expanded with recovery funds.

Full-Service Community Schools provide wraparound supports which help address chronic absenteeism and support student engagement.

Promise Neighborhoods provide comprehensive, cradle-to-career supports to students in low-income neighborhoods.

State Personnel Development Grants can be used by State Educational Agencies to respond to the needs of children with disabilities related to attendance, engagement, and mental health.

For more information on how to apply for U.S. Department of Education grants, see:
<https://www2.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html>





TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Access free evidence-based resources and request support from the Department of Education technical assistance centers.

The Student Engagement and Attendance Center (SEAC) provides direct support to States and schools in addressing chronic absenteeism, including resources on multi-tiered systems of support, understanding root causes, and strategies to address absenteeism and promote student engagement.

<https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-formula-grants/program-and-grantee-support-services/student-engagement-and-attendance-technical-assistance-sea-center/>

Additional SEAC resources are described on the right.

The National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments (NCSSLE) provides direct support to States and schools on family-school partnerships and protective student factors. <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/>

The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Center (PBIS) helps States and schools create classroom, schoolwide, family, and other supports that help students thrive in school and at home. <https://www.pbis.org/>

MORE FEDERAL RESOURCES

The National Partnership for Student Success (NPSS) is a public-private partnership led by the Department of Education, AmeriCorps, and the Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University that helps schools support students, including by increasing attendance. <https://www.partnershipstudentsuccess.org/>

The Engage Every Student Initiative (EES) is a cross organization partnership that provides high-quality out-of-school time learning opportunities for every child who wants to participate. <https://engageeverystudent.org/>

The Family Engagement to Support Student Engagement and Attendance Brief provides key strategies schools have taken to successfully engage families and increase student attendance. <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/family-community/support-student-engagement-attendance.pdf>

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ATTENDANCE CENTER RESOURCES

Find select resources from the Department's SEAC:

Proactive Schoolwide Strategies for Supporting Attendance explores strategies for messaging around attendance and creating positive school climates. <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-formula-grants/program-and-grantee-support-services/student-engagement-and-attendance-technical-assistance-sea-center/learning-series-activities/>

The Equity Discussion Guide supports schools in ensuring attendance policies, data, and communications account for the needs of all families. [https://oese.ed.gov/files/2023/12/DiscussionGuide-Equity as an Essential Component for Better Attendance.pdf](https://oese.ed.gov/files/2023/12/DiscussionGuide-Equity%20as%20an%20Essential%20Component%20for%20Better%20Attendance.pdf)

The Youth Engagement Tool and the Family Engagement Tool helps schools, States, and educators take meaningful action to strengthen relationships with youth and create opportunities for meaningful engagement with youth and their families.

Youth Engagement Tool: https://oese.ed.gov/files/2023/12/SEAC_YouthEngagementTool.pdf

Family Engagement Tool: https://oese.ed.gov/files/2023/12/SEAC_FamilyEngagementTool.pdf

For more information on U.S. Department of Education resources, visit: <https://oese.ed.gov/resources/student-attendance>

