

**ESSA State Plan: Recommendation Form**

<b>Development Cycle No(s):</b> 1 and 2	<b>Decision Point No(s):</b> 12	<b>Recommender:</b> Mary Mulloy
<b>Date submitted:</b> 5/16/16		<b>Bounce Team Coordinating:</b> CFP
<b>ESSA Citation:</b> 1003		<b>ESSA Page Number:</b> 9 - <a href="#">Link to ESSA</a>
<b>Question(s) being considered:</b> How should the State distribute the 7% set aside (from the State's Title I allocation) to LEAs – competitive or by formula? And should the State provide some services that the LEAs could buy back?		
<b>What ESSA requirements need to be met:</b> To carry out the State educational agency's statewide system of technical assistance and support for local educational agencies, each State shall reserve the greater of several funding sources, including 7 percent of the state's Title 1 set aside.		
<b>Solution being proposed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The State should allocate 95% of the funds (5% is allowed for state level administration and technical assistance) to LEAs that are implementing comprehensive improvement and targeted improvement activities on a <b>formula</b> basis and with multi-year grants (the law allows a period of not more than 4 years).</li> <li>The State should offer high quality activities that would result in increased student achievement and narrowing achievement gaps so that LEAs could "buy back" those services with the 7% funds. The School Effectiveness team will develop a plan for the identification and implementation of the high quality professional learning as a part of cycle 4.</li> </ul>		
<b>Rationale:</b> Explain why your proposal supports each decision logic element below: <i>Equity:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By formula allocation, more LEAs would have access to these funds and the funds would be targeted to the LEAs that have the highest number of schools needing comprehensive &amp; targeted support.</li> </ul> <i>Alignment with current VT policy and practice:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds would be targeted by formula to those schools with the greatest achievement gaps and those with overall poor academic performance.</li> </ul> <i>Efficiency (streamlining processes, eliminating duplicative systems or requirements):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The formula funds can be distributed in conjunction with other Title funds and therefore, not adding additional administrative costs.</li> </ul> <i>Possibility (implementation feasibility for the AOE and impacted stakeholders):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently the School Effectiveness Team works in coordination with the CFP Team to implement the current school improvement funds. This same method would be efficient and effective.</li> </ul>		
<b>Identify any known or potential risks associated with your proposed solution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Known: None</li> <li>Potential: The funds allocated by formula may eliminate the possibility of funds to schools with large achievement gaps but are not located in LEAs with other high needs schools.</li> </ul>		
<b>What are the expected benefits associated with your proposed solution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VTAOE can use current systems to manage the grant program and current team structures to administer.</li> <li>LEAs will receive additional funds to implement comprehensive and targeted improvement activities and will be able to plan multi-year approaches that will result in meeting their improvement goals.</li> </ul>		
<b>Secretary's Decision</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Confirm recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team</b>		<b>Date:</b> 6/13/2016
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Reject recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team and offer the following as an alternative: (will expand with typing)</b>		<b>Initials:</b> 