

ESSA State Plan: Recommendation Form

Development Cycle No: N/A	Decision Point No(s): 56	Author: Mary Mulloy
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Question(s) being considered: Should Vermont continue using grant funding to develop/identify a refined Next-Generation Science Standards-aligned assessment?		
What ESSA requirements need to be met? Grants may be awarded to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refining State assessments to ensure their continued alignment with the challenging State academic standards and to improve the alignment of curricula and instructional materials • At the discretion of the State, refining science assessments required under section 1111(b)(2) in order to integrate engineering design skills and practices into such assessments 		
Solution being proposed (in bullet point format): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vermont should continue to use grant funding to develop/identify a refined Next Generation Science Standards-aligned assessment 		
Rationale: Explain why your proposal supports each decision logic element below: <i>Equity:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>This assessment is aligned to career and college ready standards which will enable all students to learn the content and practice associated with more positive outcomes.</i> <i>Alignment with current VT policy and practice:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>This tool would support the assessment of students in the current body of state science standards, and would better assess student understanding of NGSS than the current NECAP assessment.</i> <i>Efficiency (streamlining processes, eliminating duplicative systems or requirements):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>This assessment will replace the science NECAPs as the state's standardized science assessment, and will not be duplicative.</i> <i>Possibility (implementation feasibility for the AOE and impacted stakeholders):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>It is likely more feasible to identify an assessment used by a consortia of states than to develop our own. We also need to be mindful of the amount of testing time to ensure we don't swamp students/schools.</i> 		
Identify any known or potential risks associated with your proposed solution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known: there are no known risks associated with this approach • Potential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Costs associated with developing and/or implementing this assessment may exceed expectations. 		
What are the expected benefits associated with your proposed solution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better assessment of student proficiency against current state science standards • Use of more NGSS-aligned data could lead to improvements in supports offered to schools and students 		
Secretary's Decision Date: June 6, 2016 Initials:  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confirm recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team <input type="checkbox"/> Reject recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team and offer the following as an alternative:		