

## ESSA State Plan: Recommendation Form

<b>Development Cycle No:</b> 1	<b>Decision Point No(s):</b> 10-11	<b>Author:</b> Mary Mulloy
<b>Date submitted:</b> 5/16/16		<b>Bounce Team Coordinating:</b> CFP
<b>ESSA Citation:</b> 1003A		<b>ESSA Page Number:</b> 11 – <a href="#">Link to ESSA</a>
<b>Question(s) being considered:</b> Should the State reserve the optional 3% of the State’s Title I allocation for “direct student services?”		
<b>What option does ESSA present?:</b> Each State educational agency may reserve not more than 3 percent of its Title I allocation for each fiscal year to carry out direct student services.		
<b>Solution being proposed (in bullet point format):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vermont should not exercise the option to reserve 3% of its Title I allocation for direct student services.</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>• <i>The funds would come off the top of the Title I allocation which would mean less in each LEA’s basic Title I grant. Only a few LEAs would receive funding and not necessarily the poorest.</i></li> </ul> <i>Alignment with current VT policy and practice:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Allowing more funds to go to LEAs, the State would allow local schools and LEAs to make the best decisions on how to best support struggling students.</i></li> </ul> <i>Efficiency (streamlining processes, eliminating duplicative systems or requirements):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Stakeholders felt strongly that the funds, once allocated to LEAs were not enough to make a difference and the administrative burden would be excessive. It would not be an effective use of funds and would not result in improved student achievement.</i></li> <li>• <i>Rejection of option means more funding can go to LEAs</i></li> </ul> <i>Possibility (implementation feasibility for the AOE and impacted stakeholders):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The administrative responsibilities for the SEA would be great – administering a new grant program with very specific uses, assuring public school choice, and compiling/maintaining an updated list of high quality academic tutoring providers.</i></li> <li>• <i>The administrative responsibilities for LEAs would also be great. The funds have to be spent in specific percentages with only 2% for administration. It would take complicated communication with parents about options, reviewing applications from students on the various options, and managing contracts with external providers.</i></li> <li>• <i>Current administrative responsibilities tied to management of SES funding deemed not worthwhile by stakeholders.</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Identify any known or potential risks associated with your proposed solution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Known:</b> Parents that have been used to private tutoring through the current SES program would no longer have that option. Parents would not be allowed public school choice except what is allowed locally and in Vermont state law.</li> <li>• Parents and providers who are used to the SES marketplace may be disappointed.</li> <li>• <b>Potential:</b> Some stakeholders believed that this may be a way to drive additional funds to small LEAs and schools and provide more options to students in those areas.</li> </ul>		
<b>What are the expected benefits associated with your proposed solution:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less administrative burden for both SEA and LEAs and most of the activities allowed in this section may be done with state, local, or Title I funds. More basic Title I grant funds will be available to LEAs to make decisions on how to improve student academic achievement.</li> </ul>		
<b>Secretary’s Decision</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Confirm recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Reject recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team and offer the following as an alternative:</b>		<b>Date:</b> 5/20/16 <b>Initials:</b> 