VERMONT
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ESSA State Plan: Recommendation Form

Development Cycle No: 6	**Decision Point No(s):** 68	**Author:** Kate Rogers, Katie McCarthy
Date submitted: 2 November 2016	**Bounce Team Coordinating:** Accountability	
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Question(s) being considered: How will the VTAOE support LEAs choosing to use Title I funds to support early childhood education?

What ESSA requirements need to be met?: Each State plan shall describe how the State will provide assistance to local educational agencies and individual elementary schools choosing to use funds under this part to support early childhood education programs.

Solution being proposed:
In general, the supports being provided to LEAs choosing to use Title funds represent continuation of current practice and the implementation of Act 166. VTAOE will continue to offer:

- technical assistance in braiding Federal (Title I) and State (Act 166) funds.
- technical assistance and professional development on the implementation of the VT Early Learning Standards (VELS) and how to align the VELS with evidence-based practices and curriculum. The VELS are aligned with Common Core State Standards through third grade.
- Continued development of the Vermont Early Childhood Comprehensive Assessment System (VECCAS) to inform preK educators on the purpose and use of Vermont's early childhood assessment tools.
- technical assistance and training for early Multi-tiered Systems of Support (Early MTSS) and its alignment with K-12 MTSS.
- training and technical assistance to support understanding and implementation of Federal statutes, including ADA, IDEA, and 504 for both school and community-based programs.
- developing Vermont principles for the full educational participation for students on inclusion.

Rationale: Explain why your proposal supports each decision logic element below:

Equity:

- The technical assistance and training of the proposed solution target all preK students in the state.
- Through the implementation of Act 166, AOE is engaged in outreach to families whose preK access is historically limited.

Alignment with current VT policy and practice:

- The proposed solutions are a continuation of current practice in Vermont.
- Vermont has aligned training, technical assistance, and policy with the joint position statements published by US ED and HHS and supported by national early childhood professional organizations.
- Universal preK implementation and monitoring is coordinated between the VTAOE and Vermont AHS.

Efficiency (streamlining processes, eliminating duplicative systems or requirements):

- The proposed solution should be familiar to educators and represents a continuation of current practice.

Possibility (implementation feasibility for the AOE and impacted stakeholders):

- The proposed solution should be familiar to educators and represents a continuation of current practice.

What are the expected benefits associated with your proposed solution:

- The proposed solution represents the convergence of several years of work to align funding, policy, and practice in early childhood education in Vermont to support each and every child.

Secretary's Decision **Date: 11/23/16** **Initials:** AH

☒ **Confirm recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team**

☐ **Reject recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team and offer the following as an alternative:**