

Renewability Policy

The [*Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)*](#) allows a State Education Agency (SEA) to renew the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center subgrants based on subgrantees' performance during the previous subgrant period [§4204(j)]. According to United States Department of Education (US ED) pre-existing guidance, the renewability provision of ESSA may apply to subgrants awarded prior to July 1, 2017, with a limitation of "one time for one to five years, consistent with the terms of the original subgrant's performance period" [*Renewability of Awards: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) MS PowerPoint found at <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/faq.html>*]

In July of 2021, USED provided verbal advanced notification to states as part of its summer coordinator meeting that a reinterpretation of Section 4204(j) of the ESSA authorizes SEAs to *renew* sub-grants awarded to eligible entities once under ESSA for a period of no less than 3-5 years. The Vermont Agency of Education is awaiting further information and clarity on this provision through published guidance.

Vermont's current decision for fiscal year '22 beginning July 1, 2021, is not to exercise renewability but to deliver funds to all eligible Vermont communities through its competitive application process. This policy decision reflects new information shared above, our commitment to ensuring statewide coherence and consistency and equity of access to funds for every eligible community, as well as to leverage this process for ongoing quality improvement.

Contact Information:

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