

Did You Know?

Pennsylvania's ESSA State Plan aligns well with the education vision and strategies of Governor Tom Wolf and Education Secretary Pedro A. Rivera:

- Historic investments in education funding;
- Diverse measures of school success;
- High quality early childhood education;
- Investment in great teachers and leaders;
- STEM innovation and capacity;
- Expansion of career ready pathways; and
- Community schools



Pennsylvania's draft plan was posted for public comment on August 2 through August 31, 2017. The Department received 445 individual comments through an online survey and through the Department's dedicated ESSA email account. [Read more about stakeholder engagement in the development of Pennsylvania's ESSA Consolidated State Plan.](#)

Pennsylvania's proposed Consolidated State Plan was submitted to the United States Department of Education (USDE) on September 18, 2017 and was approved by USDE on January 16, 2018.

[Read the approval letter sent to the Pennsylvania Department of Education by Betsy DeVos, Secretary of the United State Department of Education.](#)

Learn more about Pennsylvania's ESSA Consolidated State Plan visit <http://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/ESSA/>

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Our monthly ELA Assessment eBlast will focus on providing the following: insight around standardized assessment, professional learning for ELA classroom instruction and assessment, professional opportunities, and a question/answer section.

Email questions to:

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Pennsylvania's Kindergarten Entry Inventory (KEI) is a reliable reporting tool available at no cost to schools. The Kindergarten Entry Inventory offers teachers an instructional strategy for understanding and tracking students' proficiency across both cognitive and non-cognitive domains at kindergarten entry. The Kindergarten Entry Inventory is aligned to the [Pennsylvania Core](#) and [Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards](#), and therefore it complements and can help improve existing assessments and teaching practices.

[Kindergarten-Entry-Inventory](#)

The Department of Education (PDE) offers Pennsylvania schools access to its Equity and Inclusion Toolkit, a resource to help schools prevent and respond to racially charged and bias-related incidents in their communities.

[Equity-and-Inclusion-Toolkit](#)

Professional Learning

Text Dependent Analysis Proof of Concept (TDA POC)

PDE is sponsoring a proof of concept group consisting of expert educators from across the state led by Dr. Jeri Thompson. The POC group is validating TDA Learning Progressions and will conclude the work in 2018. We have completed our third day of research and continue to learn and grow in our understanding of the components of analysis, recognizing analysis in student work, and determining salient teaching points.

