



Nine Arts Education Policy Recommendations for Inclusion in Florida ESSA Accountability Plan:



1. **Title VIII General Provisions Regarding Clear Definition of All Arts Courses As Defined for a Well-rounded Education:** Clearly define for the state of Florida that the “arts” include the subjects dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts as part of ESSA’s definition of courses, activities, and programs for a “well-rounded” education.
2. **Fine Arts Participation As Part of A Flexible Accountability System:** Include using the data that is already being collected on numbers of students enrolled in fine arts’ courses in all Florida public schools as one of the indicators in the development of the newly required flexible accountability system that requires multiple-progress measures to assess school performance, such as student and parental engagement and school culture and environment.
3. **Pull-Out Policies:** In Section 1009: Targeted Assistance Schools, ESSA discourages the “pull out” of students from their regular classroom instruction to receive remedial instruction, including those well-rounded subjects in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art. Please provide protection from “pull-outs” by including language in the guidance to districts on the use of Title I funds.
4. **Title I Funds:** Include eligibility access and guidance that indicates that *Title I* funds can be used to support well-rounded educational activities that include dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art in school-wide schools and for targeted-assistance students.
5. **Title II Funds:** Include eligibility access and guidance that recognizes that *Title II* funds can be used to provide professional development for teachers and other educators of well-rounded subjects such as dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art.
6. **Title IV Funds/Grants:** Develop in partnership with district-content specialists tools that will be provided for districts to use as they develop their needs assessments for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants. These tools should include all aspects of a well-rounded education that include dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art.
7. **STEM to STEAM:** Support the integration of subjects in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art into programs and activities that increase participation in STEM to improve attainment of STEM-related skills and promote a well-rounded education, taking STEM to STEAM in schools.
8. **Assessments and Evaluations:** Include assessments and evaluation systems for student achievement in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art as subjects of a well-rounded education. Ensure that certified fine arts teachers are involved in the development of standards, assessments, and evaluations for these subjects.
9. **Policies and Funding to Support Pre-K Education In and Through the Arts:** Provide guidance and support for early childhood programs for a well-rounded education that include dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art.