

Statewide Family Engagement Centers (SFECs)



PTA and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

National PTA's Ask

National PTA urges Congress to increase its investment in family engagement in education by providing at least \$15 million (a \$5 million increase over FY 2019) for the Statewide Family Engagement Centers (SFECs) program in the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (L-HHS-ED) appropriations bill.



Students with engaged families



Attend school more regularly



Earn better grades



Enroll in advanced-level programs



Have higher graduation rates¹

Why do Statewide Family Engagement Centers (SFECs) need additional funding?



Thirteen states have SFECs up and running. With only \$10 million appropriated for FY18 and FY19, no new centers can be established without additional funding. This means 41.7 million K-12 students and their families are unable to benefit from enhanced engagement supports and services provided by SFECs unless Congress provides more funding.



Schools would need to increase spending by more than \$1,000 per pupil to gain the same results as effective family engagement²



Teachers are more likely to remain in schools whose families are involved and where they are able to develop trusting relationships with families³

What are SFECs?

The bipartisan Statewide Family Engagement Centers (SFEC) program provides competitive grants to statewide organizations to create centers that promote and implement evidence-based family engagement strategies. The SFEC program provides much-needed technical assistance and partnership development to states and school districts to foster meaningful engagement with families to further their children's academic and developmental progress. SFECs also provide vital direct services to improve engagement among children, parents, teachers, school leaders, counselors, administrators and other school personnel with each other.

The SFEC program just embarked on the inaugural year of an initial five-year grant cycle after receiving \$10 million in the FY18 and FY19 appropriations process. The 12 initial grantees span the country—from Hawaii to Connecticut—and will serve rural, suburban and urban communities through centers in their state. Each grantee will take evidence-based approaches to engage marginalized families to support the success of their children at school, as well as build robust statewide partnerships to reach and engage more parents in leadership and education decision-making. Each grantee will take a unique approach to empowering families as critical partners in their child's education through direct services and systemic enhancements.

References

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2. Houtenville, A. and K.S. Conway. (2008). Parental Effort, School Resources, and Student Achievement. Journal of Human Resources, XLIII. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press. Retrieved from <http://www.nspr.org/files/docs/conway-may08.pdf>
3. Allensworth, E, S. Ponisciak, and C. Mazzeo. (2009). The Schools Teachers Leave: Teacher Mobility in Chicago Public Schools. Chicago, IL: Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago Urban Education Institute. Retrieved from https://consortium.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/publications/CCSR_Teacher_Mobility.pdf

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Current SFEC Grantees

State	Center Name	Grantee	Expected Funding Over Five Years
CT	Connecticut Statewide Family Engagement Center	Capitol Region Education Council	\$4,594,540
KY	Kentucky Statewide Family Engagement Center	The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence	\$4,680,630
AZ	Arizona Statewide Family Engagement Center	National Center for Families Learning	\$4,647,940
NE	Nebraska Statewide Family Engagement Center	National Center for Families Learning	\$4,577,807
MA	Massachusetts Family Engagement Center	The Federation for Children With Special Needs, Inc.	\$4,911,621
MN	Minnesota Statewide Family Engagement Center	PACER Center, Inc.	\$3,000,000
SC	South Carolina Statewide Family Engagement Center	University of South Carolina	\$4,663,655
SD	South Dakota Statewide Family Engagement Center	West River Foundation	\$4,481,613
WV	West Virginia Statewide Family Engagement Center	EdVenture Group, Inc.	\$4,835,680
OH	Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center	The Ohio State University	\$4,186,429
HI	Hawaii Statewide Family Engagement Center	University of Hawaii	\$4,843,968
MD, PA	Collaborative Action for Family Engagement Center	Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium	\$4,920,989