



Illinois State Board of Education

100 West Randolph Street, Suite 4-800 • Chicago, Illinois 60601-3223
www.isbe.net

James T. Meeks
Chairman

Tony Smith, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Education

MEMO

DATE: September 23, 2016

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Tony Smith, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

RE: U.S. Department of Education Proposed Regulations on Supplement not Supplant

On September 6, 2016, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) posted notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) regarding supplement not supplant regulations (<http://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ED-2016-OESE-0056-0001>). The proposed rules still need to go through a 60-day comment period before they can be finalized – comments are due November 7. The proposed rules give districts four options to show compliance with the Title I specific supplemental-money rule. (See the following overview sheet.)

The intention of these rules is admirable, but the methodology will not help -- and may, in fact, hurt -- the students they are intended to benefit. Quality, types, and amount of resources are not considered compared to dollars spent. There is a lack of flexibility or consideration for state and local control that is in contrast to the intention of the Every Student Succeeds Act. ISBE is beginning an in-depth analysis into the implications of these rules and needs your help. What are the implications for your schools and districts if these rules are finalized?

Shortly, ISBE will craft a template letter that districts can use, should they choose, in order to submit the implications of these proposed rules to ED as part of the comment process. It is critically important that ED hear from the districts about the unintended consequences of these proposed rules. ISBE will be submitting a letter to ED as well. We want to ensure we include district information in our analysis. Thus, we would greatly appreciate it if you can respond to the following questions **by Friday, October 7**, via essa@isbe.net.

- *What are the implications for your schools and districts if these rules are finalized?*
- *What do you estimate your additional burden would be to transition to site-based accounting?*
- *How would using the various formulas impact your spending and staffing for schools?*
- *What unintended consequences do you foresee if you have to comply with these new rules?*

ISBE will host a **webinar to review these proposed rules and answer questions and concerns from 10 a.m.-noon on October 4**. Registration information is available at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4503806712888455681>. Meanwhile, should you have additional comments or questions, please contact Melina Wright, division administrator for Title Grants, at (312) 814-1295 and/or via email at mewright@isbe.net.

Thank you for all you do on behalf of Illinois children.

