

Financial Transparency under ESSA



The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) will change the way your school district reports its finances. Under ESSA, each district is required to annually publish actual per pupil expenditures for each school.

This will increase transparency about how each district is using its resources and allow for comparisons between schools and across school districts.

Publishing this data at the school level may call into question how the following are reported:

- salaries and benefits by school
- shared staff expenditures across locations
- centrally purchased instructional resources

- Is your financial data organized to produce ESSA report cards?
- Can a non-financial expert understand your district's financial processes?
- Can your existing financial processes easily and efficiently deliver the data that ESSA mandates?
- Is financial planning and management a core competency for leaders in your district?

Can your district report the following financial data?



Shared School Staff Expenditures

Positions that serve multiple school locations like social workers have traditionally been counted as part of a central office department, like special ed. To make an accurate statement about how much a school is actually spending, can your district correctly apportion the cost of shared services to each school that receives them?



Centrally Purchased Goods

Districts often centrally purchase goods like new computers or new textbooks and then distribute them to schools. Can your district itemize centrally purchased goods in order to know with certainty which schools received which items, and the total cost of the items?



Shared Operations & Support Staff

Variable needs like building maintenance are often paid for by the central office, since it's difficult to know in advance how much each school will use each year. Can your district track the service hours and accompanying cost in order to accurately represent how much was spent on the school?

Feeling overwhelmed? Don't! We can help. As education finance experts, we have spent years developing innovative financial management solutions to support financial analysis and ESSA-compliant reporting. Our signature solution, Balance integrates seamlessly with K-12 districts' existing accounting systems and other data systems to help educators plan, monitor, and evaluate spending.



**ARE
YOUR FINANCES
READY
FOR ESSA?**