

**Implications of ESSA for School Psychologists**  
Dr. Michael Petrusek, Office for Exceptional Children  
OSPA Spring Conference April 21, 2016

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**Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**

Reauthorizes and replaces ESEA/NCLB

Starts 2017-18 school year

Reduces federal role and increases state role in key components of educational planning

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**Increased state responsibilities per ESSA**

Implementation of academic standards (core curriculum)

Enforcement of accountability systems

Allocation of funding

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### Key themes in ESSA

Comprehensive or multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS)

Improved school climate and school safety

Assessment and accountability systems (but no longer requires the punitive measures of NCLB)

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### MTSS vs. RTI

MTSS is broader and may include greater emphasis upon:

Social, emotional and behavioral supports

Greater focus upon Tier I and prevention efforts

Supports for staff (professional development & coaching)

Systems change and focus on school culture

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### Key terms associated with school psychologists in ESSA

*"School-based mental health provider"* is a state licensed individual able to provide mental health services to children

*"Specialized instructional support personnel (SISP)"* includes school psychologists and replaces the term *pupil services personnel*

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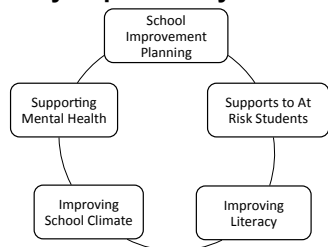
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### As a SISP you potentially have key roles:



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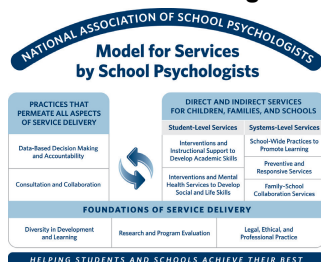
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### NASP Practice Model Aligns with ESSA



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### NASP Resources for ESSA

White Paper: School Psychologists as Qualified Health Professions

[http://www.nasponline.org/assets/documents/Research%20and%20Policy/Position%20Statements/ WP\\_Qualified\\_Mental\\_and\\_Behavioral\\_Health\\_Professionals.p df](http://www.nasponline.org/assets/documents/Research%20and%20Policy/Position%20Statements/ WP_Qualified_Mental_and_Behavioral_Health_Professionals.pdf)

ESSA, MTSS and NASP Practice Model Crosswalk:

[https://www.nasponline.org/search/search-results? keywords=ESSA&startRow=10&rowsPerPage=10](https://www.nasponline.org/search/search-results?keywords=ESSA&startRow=10&rowsPerPage=10)

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