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SOUTHEAST
Comprehensive Center
at American Institutes for Research

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SECC College- and Career-Readiness Standards & Assessment E-Newsletter

Current Research/Resources

What Works Toolkit—A State and Local Government Policymaker's Guide to Improving Human Services Contracting and Outcomes

This [toolkit](#), compiled by Results for America, provides five recommendations for moving from compliance-focused human services contracting to outcomes-focused contracting. It offers examples from state and local governments that successfully implemented the recommendations. Links to tools and templates are also included.

[Read more](#)

Using Student Assessment Data to Support Decision-Making

This [brief](#) by the Center on Standards and Assessment Implementation (CSAI) offers five strong recommendations for state education agencies (SEAs), local education agencies (LEAs), principals, and teachers on the use of student assessment data to support decision-making. For each of the recommendations, the brief includes examples of states, LEAs, and schools that are effectively implementing the recommendation. The brief offers a user-friendly guide for appropriate use of data and for the value it can provide stakeholders at various levels.

[Read more](#)

An Integrated Approach to Defining a System-Level Theory of Action for Formative Assessment

This [report](#) by the Council of Chief State School Officers explores two theories of action for implementing a formative assessment system: an ecological theory of action and a more traditional program-oriented approach. The report discusses the complexities and benefits of implementing an authentic formative assessment system as well as key challenges.

[Read more](#)

ESSA Updates

Homeless Children and Youth in the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015

This two-page [brief](#) by the SchoolHouse Connection describes provisions included in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) aimed at improving training, identification, enrollment, stability, and success for homeless students from preK through high school as well as the transition to post-secondary education. The brief includes changes that must be implemented at the state and local education agency levels. Among the included requirements are school stability, school enrollment and participation, preschool, credit accrual, and college readiness.

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