



**National Association
for Music Education**



**MUSIC EDUCATION
POLICY ROUNDTABLE**

Fiscal Year 2019 Federal Appropriations Requests



APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR ALL “WELL-ROUNDED” PROGRAMS: The inclusion of “music” as part of a “Well-Rounded Education” provides a significant number of opportunities for increasing access to music education for students at the state and local levels. The specific enumeration of music in statute further articulates music’s eligibility for Title I, Title II, and Title IV funding. In order to make these opportunities a reality for students, Congress must follow the Every Student Succeeds Act’s (ESSA) congressional intent, and ensure states, districts, charters, and local schools have the most flexibility to spend their federal dollars where needed. Robust funding for all well-rounded programs, including Title IV, Part A, must be a priority to protect this flexibility.

- **Support Access to Music Education as Part of a “Well-Rounded Education” by Fully Funding Title IV, Part A:** Under Title IV, Part A of ESSA, the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Grants provides a new and clear intent to support our nation’s schools through a “Well-Rounded Education.” As such, this new formula-funded block grant may be used in part to improve access to music education, and in turn, to support not only student success, but also the promotion of constructive student engagement, problem solving, and conflict resolution. In addition, other funds may be used to offer a broad array of enriched educational experiences, such as providing music to underrepresented, disadvantaged, and minority student populations.

Funding History for Title IV, Part A [SSAE] (in millions)

FY 2018	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 NAFME - Roundtable Request
\$1,100.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,225.00	\$1,600.00 (Authorized Level)

FY 2018 Reaction

The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) was thrilled to support Congress’ FY 2018 bipartisan omnibus appropriations bill, which provided \$1.1 billion for the Title IV-A block grant. This figure represents a 250% increase from last year’s inadequate funding level of \$400 million.

Since the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), achieving full funding for Title IV-A has remained as NAFME’s top appropriations priority. With this funding increase, Title IV-A will finally operate as a formula grant program for all states, as intended by law. This will provide numerous school districts, including many urban and rural schools, with the true flexibility they deserve to invest in a well-rounded curriculum that includes providing access to a sequential and standards-based music education. We thank Congress for this outstanding support and continue to urge for full funding for the SSAE block grant, so that each and every student has access to a well-rounded education.

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- **Support Access to Music Education for the Most Disadvantaged Students by Fully Funding Title I, Part A:** Title I, Part A programs, both school-wide and targeted, are now available to provide supplemental funds for a “Well-Rounded Education,” including music.

Funding History for Title I to LEAs (in millions)

FY 2018	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 NAFME - Roundtable Request
\$15,760.00	\$15,800.00	\$15,890.00	\$15,460.00 (Authorized Level)

Additionally, the President’s request includes suggested language that would dedicate \$1.0 billion of Title I, Part A funds towards portability, where the dollars would follow a low-income student to a public school of his or her choice. Congress must exclude this language in any funding proposal, as it would weaken the targeting of Title I funds, and continue implementing Title I programs as intended by Congress in ESSA.

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- **Support Professional Development for Music Educators by Fully Funding Title I, Part A, Title II, Part A and Title IV, Parts A and F:** These funds may be used to support professional development for music educators, as part of supporting a “Well-Rounded Education.”

Supporting Effective Instruction, Title II, Part A (formerly, Teacher Quality Program)

Funding History (in millions)

FY 2018	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 NAFME - Roundtable Request
\$2,056.00	\$2,056.00	\$2,056.00	\$2,295.00 (Authorized Level)

Assistance for Arts Education (formerly, Arts in Education), Title IV, Part F

Funding History (in millions)

FY 2018	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 NAFME - Roundtable Request
\$29.00	\$29.00	\$29.00	\$29.00

Music educators play an important role in enabling student success. Appropriate funding levels for these programs provide unique federal support for professional development for music educators and enhance the skills they need to provide a high-quality music education to our nation’s students, part of Congress’ vision of a “Well-Rounded Education.”

