



**National Association
for Music Education**



**MUSIC EDUCATION
POLICY ROUNDTABLE**



Fiscal Year 2020 Federal Appropriations Requests

APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR ALL “WELL-ROUNDED” PROGRAMS: The Every Student Succeeds Act’s (ESSA) enumeration of “music” as part of a “Well-Rounded Education” provides opportunities for increasing access to music education for students at the state and local levels. This includes 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 ESSA’s 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 provide a clear intent to support the nation’s schools through a “Well-Rounded Education.” As such, this new formula-funded block grant may be used 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, the 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]

FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020 President’s Budget	FY 2020 NAfME - Roundtable Request
\$1.0 Billion	\$1.17 Billion	\$0	\$1.6 Billion (Authorized Level)

FY 2019 Reaction

The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) was thrilled to support Congress’ FY 2019 bipartisan appropriations bill for Education, which provided \$1.17 billion for the Title IV-A block grant. This figure represents an increase from the FY18 funding level and continues to move us closer to fully funding Title IV, Part A as authorized in ESSA. The substantial increase from the FY17 level of just \$400 million allowed the program to function as the law intended, through formula funding for all school districts.

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. The results of 2 years of funding Title IV, Part A above the \$1 billion level have been increased opportunities in music and the arts throughout the country, including the purchasing of instruments to rebuild band programs in Dayton, OH, refurbishing of older facilities in rural Winchester, KY, and stipends for

teachers to recruit, plan and implement an elementary instrumental program. We thank Congress for this outstanding support and continue to urge full funding of the SSAE block grant, so that **every** student has access to a well-rounded education, including a robust music education.

- **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, can provide supplemental funds for a “Well-Rounded Education,” including music.

Funding History for Title I to LEAs

FY 2018	FY 2019	FY2020 President’s Budget	FY 2020 NAFME - Roundtable Request
\$15.8 Billion	\$15.86 Billion	\$15.9 Billion (Portability)*	\$16.182 Billion (No Portability)

*The President’s request includes suggested language that would dedicate \$50 million 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. NAFME strongly advises Congress to exclude this language in any funding proposal, as it would weaken the targeting of Title I funds and ability to continue implementing Title I programs as intended by Congress in ESSA.

- **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

FY 2018	FY 2019	President’s Budget	FY 2020 NAFME - Roundtable Request
\$2.056 Billion	\$2.056 Billion	\$0	\$2.295 Billion (Authorized Level)

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

Funding History (in millions)

FY 2018	FY 2019 House	President’s Budget	FY 2020 NAFME - Roundtable Request
\$29 million	\$29 million	\$0	\$35 million

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