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Evidence-Based Interventions

In order to ensure the effectiveness of school interventions, the Every School Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) calls for the adoption of programs of proven success. The U.S. Department of Education has also established a hierarchy for ranking the degree of evidence for a given intervention’s impact, ranging from “Tier 1: Strong Evidence” to “Tier 2: Moderate Evidence” and “Tier 3: Promising Evidence.” For some programs still undergoing testing, it is enough that they “demonstrate a rationale” (Tier 4) based on high-quality research [Sec. 8101(21)(A) of ESEA]. Interventions covered by the set-aside for low performing schools in Title I must be ranked in one of the first three tiers.
In practical terms, most LEAs often do not have the time or resources to experiment and evaluate potential interventions themselves. For this reason, the U.S. Department of Education has created the What Works Clearinghouse (https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/). Similar resources are coming online from a number of private entities as well, such as Evidence for ESSA (https://www.evidenceforessa.org) created by the Center for Research and Reform in Education at Johns Hopkins University. These websites present data on the outcomes obtained through various popular programs, broken down by subject area and school type (elementary, middle, high school, etc.)

In an effort to help LEAs find and identify programs that fit local needs, the Office of Federal Programs has created a series of tables describing interventions that have been tested and ranked, along with the ranking assigned (Tier 1, Tier 2, etc.) and links to the literature behind the interventions and the studies evaluating them. There are tables currently available for the areas of Math, Reading, English Language Proficiency, Parent/Family Engagement, and Safe and Healthy Schools. These tables can be found under the “Evidence-Based” tab of the Office of Federal Programs’ website (https://sde.ok.gov/federal-programs).

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**Joint Federal Programs Claims Information**

Federal claims can only be submitted 10 days prior to the end of the date range being claimed. LEAs may no longer create multiple claims for a single program at the same time. LEAs must wait until the prior claim is paid by the state before creating the next claim.

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