

GEPA

Section 427 of the General Education Provision Act (GEPA)

New for school year 2021-2022, all LEAs will be required to submit a current GEPA statement with their SRSA application to the USED.

Section 427 of the U.S. Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) requires grantees of federal funds to describe the steps the grantee will take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, the federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs.

The NDDPI was recently required to submit a GEPA policy statement to the USED, which can be accessed [here](#). It is important for districts to be aware that anytime a district applies for federal funding, they will be required to address the GEPA provision.

A GEPA statement should consist of a specific explanation of:

- a. Your school district's proposed use(s) of federal grant funds; and
- b. How your school district will use these funds in a way that addresses barriers to access and participation in programs based on any federally protected categories, such as race, gender, national origin, socioeconomic status, disability, or age.

The USED has a variety of sample GEPA statements at <https://oese.ed.gov/gepa/> on their website. Refer to the bottom of the page for thirteen GEPA examples specific to how districts are utilizing their SRSA funding.