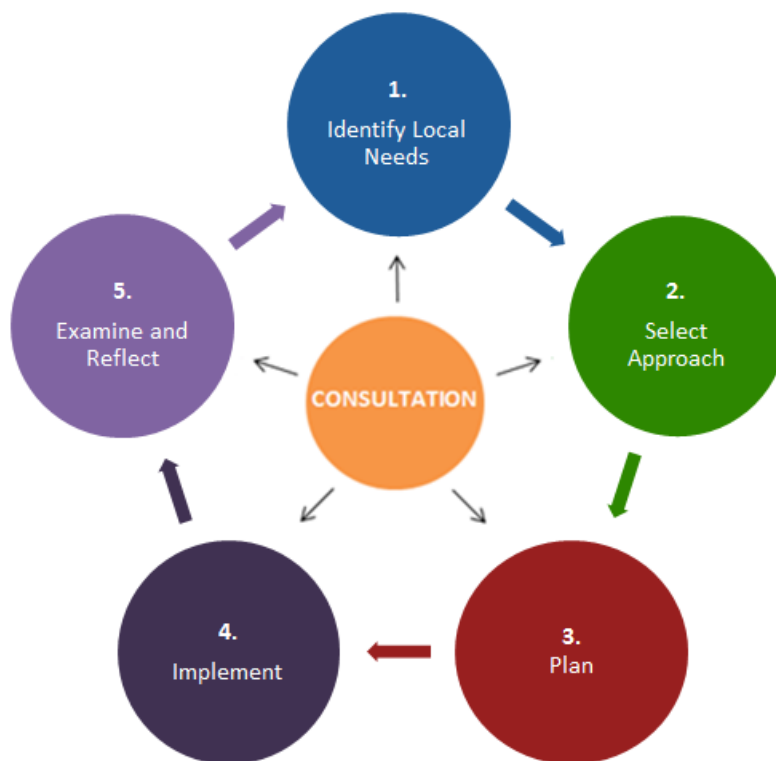


Title II, Part A Needs Assessment

Although a formal needs assessment is not required by the Every Student Succeeds Act, such an assessment may help ensure that Title II, Part A funds are used strategically, to maximize educator effectiveness and student outcomes.

The U.S. Department of Education has suggested a cyclical framework for maximizing Title II, Part A funds. This framework is designed to help decision-makers make more effective Title II, Part A investments and to make the use of evidence, research, and data part of the decision-making process. The recommended model includes the following five components that are more likely to result in sustained, improved outcomes for students:

- 1) Chosen interventions align with identified local needs.
- 2) The evidence base and the local capacity are considered when selecting a strategy.
- 3) There is a robust implementation plan.
- 4) Adequate resources are provided so the implementation is well-supported.
- 5) Information is gathered regularly to examine the strategy and to reflect on and inform next steps.



A quality needs assessment should, at a minimum, take into account:

- human capital factors for educators at all levels, including recruitment, distribution, retention and development;
- the activities that need to be conducted in order to give teachers the means, including subject-matter knowledge and teaching skills, to provide students with the opportunity to meet challenging state and local student academic achievement standards; and
- the activities that need to be conducted in order to give principals the instructional leadership skills to help teachers provide students with the opportunity to meet challenging state and local student academic achievement standards.