



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent
 "Educating Georgia's Future"

Affirmation of Notification and Initial Consultation for Equitable Services (Form A)
Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, Stronger Connections
Safer Georgia Schools

To be completed for participating private schools only. Due with budget submission

Local Education Agency (LEA)	
Private School Name	

Directions:

- The LEA and Private School must check the box next to each topic to indicate it was addressed in consultation.
- Both School Officials (private and public) must sign and date this document. Electronic Signatures accepted.
- Submit the signed form with budget submission.
- Please contact ESEA State Ombudsman Staff with equitable services or form questions ombudsman@doe.k12.ga.us

District Response		School Response		Consultation Topics (Stronger Connections FAQs & ESSA 8501/ Non-Regulatory Guidance)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Eligibility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participating non-public schools must be non-profit K-12 elementary and/or secondary schools as of date of consultation. Participating private schools may demonstrate this status by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Method # 1- 501(c)(3) ○ Method # 2- State Nonprofit Status ○ Method # 3- Incorporation Documentation ○ Method # 4- Parent Organization using 1-3 and affiliate documentation • In existence before the date the Act was passed. • In compliance with state law.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Beneficiaries: The LEA may provide equitable services with Stronger Connections Grant funds to any students and teachers in non-public schools, as agreed upon in consultation with representatives of non-public schools.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	

District Response		School Response		Consultation Topics (Stronger Connections FAQs & ESSA 8501/ Non-Regulatory Guidance)
Yes		Yes		Secular: The LEA must provide equitable services and other benefits, including materials and equipment, that are secular, neutral, and nonideological.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Equitable: The LEA must provide services and other benefits for non-public school students and teachers in a timely manner that are equitable in comparison to the services and benefits provided for public school students and teachers.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Proportional: ESEA requires an LEA to ensure that its expenditures for equitable services for eligible private school students and educators under covered ESEA programs are equal on a per-pupil basis to the expenditures for participating public school students and educators, taking into account the number and needs of the eligible private school students and educators. After timely and meaningful consultation with appropriate private school officials, an LEA could choose to calculate equal expenditures strictly on the basis of the relative enrollments of public and private schools in the LEA on the assumption that these numbers accurately reflect the relative needs of children and educators in public and private schools. Alternatively, an LEA could choose to use other factors relating to the needs of public and private school children and not base its equal expenditures only on relative enrollments. For example, if an SEA targets services to a specific group of schools such as those that experienced a violent event, then the LEA would determine expenditures for equitable services consistent with that targeting.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Administrative Costs: The LEA must communicate with the private school the reservation funds that are reasonable and necessary for administering equitable services including indirect cost reservations.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Availability: An LEA must obligate BSCA Stronger Connections funds for equitable services in the fiscal years for which those funds are intended for services.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Design and Development: An LEA must consult with appropriate non-public school officials during the design and development of the LEA's activities on relevant issues. The LEA and non-public school officials shall both have the goal of reaching agreement on how to provide equitable and effective services. The LEA must transmit the results of that agreement to the ombudsman (In Georgia completed through the BSCA Stronger Connections Contact Log and Affirmation – Form A).
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Timely: Consultation occurs before an LEA makes any decision that affects the opportunities of nonpublic students and teachers to receive equitable services.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Delivery Mechanisms: Consultation included discussion of service delivery mechanisms an LEA may use to provide equitable services.
No		No		

District Response		School Response		Consultation Topics (Stronger Connections FAQs & ESSA 8501/ Non-Regulatory Guidance)
Yes		Yes		Control of Funds: Control of funds and title to materials, equipment, and property must be in public agency (LEA).
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Use of Funds: Funds may be used for any activity authorized under BSCA Stronger Connections. Any limitations or priorities that an SEA establishes for its Stronger Connections competition may affect the students eligible for equitable services, the types of services available, and the private schools in which those services may be provided.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Procedures: During consultation, LEAs should share local procedures relative to processing and purchasing requests. Both parties should discuss timing and methods for ongoing communication and consultation.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Reporting: Both parties may need to provide information relative to reporting as needed to meet state reporting requirements.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Audits and Monitoring: BSCA Stronger Connections funds are subject to auditing and monitoring at the SEA and LEA level.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Disagreement: If the LEA disagrees with the views of the private school officials on the provision of services, it will provide in writing to such private school officials an analysis of the reason(s) why it has chosen not to honor a request.
No		No		
Yes		Yes		Complaints: Non-public school officials have the right to file a complaint with the SEA. The complaint form is available on the State Ombudsman webpage.
No		No		
Public School Comments/Notes (Include additional pages for comments if needed):				
Private School Comments/Notes (Include additional pages for comments if needed):				

LEA Official Printed Name & Date	
LEA Official Signature	
Private School Official Printed Name & Date	
Private School Official Signature	