



Advancing Opportunity,  
Prosperity, and Growth

## EVENT

### Beyond Reading and Math

#### How to Accelerate Success for Students

A quality education for all students is a prerequisite for an economy that increases opportunity, prosperity, and broadly shared growth. School accountability policies, in which school performance is evaluated based on clear metrics, have developed over the past few decades as a strategy central to assessing and achieving progress toward this goal. The new federal education law—the Every Student Succeeds Act—changes the national accountability structure established by No Child Left Behind, empowering states to design and implement state-wide accountability systems. In addition to test-based metrics and graduation rates, ESSA required states to hold schools accountable for a least one other measure of “school quality or student success.”

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## PAPER

### Reducing Chronic Absenteeism under the Every Student Succeeds Act

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In this strategy paper, we review the literature and present novel analyses of the individual and school factors that relate to chronic absenteeism. Our analysis shows that health problems and socioeconomic status are important predictors of low attendance, but also that both individuals and schools show strong persistence in rates of chronic absenteeism over time. This suggests that intervention to break the cycle of missing school, especially early in students' lives, is critical to increasing student achievement and graduation rates. We articulate a policy framework for states to use as they oversee implementation of statewide accountability plans under the Every Student Succeeds Act in general and as it relates to chronic absenteeism. We describe how states have differed in their approaches and review evidence-based strategies for schools as they work to reduce rates of chronic absence among students.