

# Understanding ESSA EVIDENCE



In 2015, as part of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), Congress passed and the President enacted the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which replaced No Child Left Behind. ESSA encourages local and state educational agencies and schools to place a strong emphasis on evidence-based interventions, strategies, or approaches when purchasing and adopting solutions and services.

Within the law, evidence-based solutions are described as programs showing evidence of producing positive results on student outcomes. Specifically, the type of evidence backed by formal research and studies.

## ESSA defines four tiers of evidence:

### Tier 1—Strong:

Supported by one or more experimental studies.

### Tier 2—Moderate:

Supported by one or more quasi-experimental studies.

### Tier 3—Promising:

Supported by one or more correlational studies.

### Tier 4—Demonstrates a Rationale:

Practices that have a logic model, are supported by research, and have some effort of study underway.



**LANGUAGE! Live** is a comprehensive, blended 5–12 ELA solution for struggling adolescents that inspires a new level of confidence and drive to help students become proficient readers and writers. **LANGUAGE! Live** merges leading-edge research and data-driven assessment in a unique, motivational, classroom-tested approach. It is effective because it fosters both foundational and grade-level learning and blends the power of technology with the expertise of the teacher. It meets students where they are and gets them to where they need to be.

TIER

4

## DEMONSTRATES A RATIONALE Criteria as Defined by ESSA

- Demonstrates a rationale based on high-quality research findings or positive evaluation that such activity, strategy, or intervention is likely to improve student outcomes or other relevant outcomes
- Includes ongoing efforts to examine the effects of such activity, strategy, or intervention ideally producing promising evidence

## How **LANGUAGE! Live** Demonstrates a Rationale

- ✓ **LANGUAGE! Live** National Results reports show improvement in student outcomes as measured by Progress Assessment of Reading (PAR), TOSCRF, and TWS-4.
- ✓ Research Foundations paper shows strong alignment to research about adolescent literacy instruction and intervention.

### Voyager Sopris Learning® Data

The PAR results are reported in Lexile® measures, and the TOSCRF and TWS-4 results are reported using Percentile Rank (PR). The beginning-of-year (BOY) and end-of-year (EOY) results are shown for each assessment. It is important to remember the PAR is a grade-level assessment and the TOSCRF and TWS-4 are norm-referenced assessments, meaning through the use of these tests, students are being compared to their grade-level and age-level peers.

