

Title I

Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies

Purpose

Title I, the largest elementary and secondary education program, supplements State and local funding for low-achieving children, especially in high-poverty schools. The program finances the additional academic support and learning opportunities that are often required to help disadvantaged students progress along with their classmates.

How Funding is Distributed to Schools

The Title I program provides financial assistance through State educational agencies (SEAs) to local educational agencies (LEAs) and public schools with high numbers or percentages of poor children to help ensure that all children meet challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards. LEAs target the Title I funds they receive to public schools with the highest percentages of children from low-income families. Under Title I, local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to provide services for eligible private school students, as well as eligible public school students.

How Funds May Be Spent

More than 50,000 public schools across the country use Title I funds to provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help low-achieving children master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects. Funds support extra instruction in reading and mathematics, as well as special preschool, after-school, and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum.

Unless a participating school is operating a schoolwide program, the school must focus Title I services on children who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet State academic standards. Schools enrolling at least 40 percent of students from poor families are eligible to use Title I funds for schoolwide programs that serve all children in the school.

AYP

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is an individual state's measure of progress toward the goal of 100 percent of students achieving state academic standards in at least reading/language arts and math. It sets the minimum level of proficiency that the state, its school districts, and schools must achieve each year on annual tests and related academic indicators. Parents whose children are attending Title I (low-income) schools that do not make AYP over a period of years are given options to transfer their child to another school or obtain free tutoring (supplemental educational services).

Allocations

The US Department of Education provides tables organized by State showing each LEA's Federal FY Title I allocation; 20-percent reservation for choice-related transportation and supplemental educational services; and maximum per-child expenditure for supplemental educational services at

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/titlei/fy07/index.html#allocation>

US Department of Education Web site

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/index.html>

Non-Regulatory Guidance Title I Fiscal Issues: Maintenance Of Effort, Comparability, Supplement, Not Supplant, Carryover, Consolidating Funds In Schoolwide Programs, And Grantback Requirements at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/fiscalguid.doc>