

FEDERAL GRANTS

The federal government offers multiple grants to improve student achievement.

Title I School Improvement 1003

See School Redesign at <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/school-redesign>

Title I, Part A

Purpose: Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. Federal funds are currently allocated through four statutory formulas that are based primarily on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state.

LEA Allocations: Funds are distributed to LEAs according to a set four formulas:

1. Basic Grant - based on number of economically disadvantaged (ED) children. Any LEA with a least 10 ED children and 2 percent of its students in poverty receive funding through this grant;
2. Concentration Grant – LEAs receive funds through this grant if the LEA has at least 15 percent or 6,500 ED students (whichever is less);
3. Targeted Formula -- Provides more money per child as the LEA's ED rate increases;
4. Education Finance Incentive Grant -- Takes into account how equitability the LEA distributes its state and local funding for education.

Use of Funds: Title I funds should directly support activities that support student achievement, support staff professional development, and/or increase the participation of parents in school activities or assist parents to support student achievement.

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn> (Section 1001)

Resources: Guidance: <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essaswpguidance9192016.pdf>

Program Specific Guidance:

<http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/district-support/louisianas-school-system-planning-guide.pdf?sfvrsn=8>

Title I, Part C: Migrant Education Program

Purpose: The purpose of the state-administered Migrant Education Program (MEP) is to ensure that children of migrant workers have access to and benefit from the same free, appropriate public education provided to other children. The goal of MEP is to ensure that all migrant students meet challenging academic standards and graduate with a high school diploma (or complete a high school equivalency) that prepares them for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment.

LEA Allocations: Allocations are determined by a formula based upon the number of eligible migratory children within a district.

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn> (Section 1301)

Resources: <https://louisianamigrantidr.com/>

Provides resources and information about Louisiana's MEP including local program contact information, presentations from trainings, program forms and manuals, and guidance materials.

<https://results.ed.gov/>

Provides information and resources about the MEP on national level including state contact information, legislation and policy, and technical assistance handbooks from the Office of Migrant Education.

Title I, Part D: Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk

Purpose: The purpose of Title I, Part D funds is to:

- (1) improve educational services for children and youth in local and state institutions for neglected or delinquent children and youth so that they have the opportunity to meet the same challenging state academic content and state student achievement standards that all children in the state are expected to meet;
- (2) provide these children with services that enable them to transition successfully from institutionalization to further schooling or employment; and
- (3) prevent at-risk youth from dropping out of school as well as provide dropouts and children and youth returning from correctional facilities or institutions for neglected or delinquent children and youth with a support system to ensure their continued education.

LEA Allocations:

Subpart 1 Allocations (State Agencies) - A per pupil allocation is determined based on student counts.

Subpart 2 Allocations (LEAs) - allocations are based on delinquent counts and are included in each LEA's Title I Part A awards from the US Department of Education (ED).

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn> (Section 1501)

Resources: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/titleipartd/index.html>

Title II, Part A: Supporting Effective Instruction

Purpose: The purpose of Title II, Part A is to increase the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals, and other school leaders. The focus is on raising student achievement by improving teacher, principal, and school leader quality. Funds can also be used to

LEA Allocations: This program is based on percentage of economically disadvantaged students as well as the overall student population of a LEA.

Use of Funds: Title II funds should directly support the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals and other school leaders through multiple pathways to teaching and learning, teacher induction and mentorship, meaningful evaluation and support, strong teacher leadership, and transformative school leadership. Funds can also be used to develop and implement initiatives to assist in recruiting and retaining highly qualified teacher.

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn> (Section 2101. Local use of funds in Section 2101)

Resources: <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essatitleiipartaguidance.pdf>

Title III: Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students

Purpose: The purpose of Title III is to improve the education of English learners by assisting the children to learn English and meet the challenging state academic standards. In carrying out Title III activities, the eligible entity shall use effective approaches and methodologies for teaching English learners and immigrant children and youth.

LEA Allocations: Allocations are made to districts with an English Learner count high enough to meet the \$10,000 minimum threshold. LEAs that do not meet the \$10,000 threshold may form a consortium to qualify for these funds.

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn> (Section 3001)

Resources: <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essatitleiiienglishlearners92016.pdf>

<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/sfgp/eseatitleiiiresourceaccountelsguide.pdf>

<http://www.louisianabelieves.com/academics/english-learners>

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/index.html>

Title IV, Part A: Student Support and Academic Enrichments Grants

Purpose: The purpose of Title IV is to provide all students access to a well-rounded education, improve school conditions for learning, and improve the use of technology to improve academic achievement and digital literacy. Newly enacted flexible state block grants are allocated to LEAs to:

1. Provide students with a well-rounded education (e.g. STEM, arts, civics, IB/AP, career and technical education).
2. Support safe and healthy students (e.g. school mental health, drug and violence prevention, and training on trauma-informed practices, health and physical education).
3. Support the effective use of technology (e.g. professional development, blended learning, technology devices).

LEA Allocations: LEAs receive allocations based on the Title I formula.

Use of Funds: Any LEA that receives a formula allocation above \$30,000 must conduct a needs assessment and then must expend at least 20 percent on activities to provide well-rounded education activities and at least 20 percent on safe and healthy school activities. The LEA can spend the remaining 60 percent across all three priorities, including technology; however, there is a 15 percent cap on devices, equipment, software, and digital content. If a LEA receives an allocation below \$30,000, the law does not require a needs assessment or categorical spending thresholds. The 15 percent technology purchase cap applies to all allocations, regardless of amount.

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn> (Section 4101)

Resources: <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essassaegrantguid10212016.pdf>

Title V Part B: Rural Education Initiative (formerly Title VI, Part B)

Purpose: Title V provides funds to address the unique needs of rural LEAs that frequently:

1. Lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for federal competitive grants; and
2. Receive formula grant allocations in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.

Allocation of Funds: Two formula grants offered under this initiative:

1. Rural, Low-Income School (RLIS): The LDOE sub-grants funds to eligible LEAs.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Twenty percent or more of the children aged 5 to 17 served by the LEA must be from families with incomes below the poverty line; and
2. All schools served by the LEA must have a locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43 as determined by the National Center for Educational Statistics.

Allowable Use of Funds:

RLIS funds may be used for activities allowable under:

- Title 1, Part A
- Title II, Part A
- Title III and/or
- Title IV, Part A

Under Alternative Fund Use Authority, districts may consolidate any and all Title IV-A (see below) funding for allowable activities permissible under REAP.

2. Small Rural School Achievement Program (SRSA): This grant is awarded *directly by the US Department of Education* and designated LEAs must apply for the funds each fiscal year in grants.gov by established deadline.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Fewer than 600 students for Average Daily Attendance (ADA) count at all schools in the school division, **or**
2. A total population density of fewer than ten (10) persons per square mile within the school division, **and**
3. All schools served by the school division are designated with a locale code of 41, 42, or 43 as determined by the NCES.

Note: A LEA can only receive funds from one Title V grant, so if a LEA qualifies for both SRSA and RLIS, it must decide which fund to receive.

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn> (Section 5201)

Resources: <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/eligibility.html>
<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/reaprlisp/index.html>

National Center for Educational Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov> This website can be used to get locale code information about districts and schools.

Locale Code Definition: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/handbook/data/pdf/appendix_d.pdf

Title IX, Part A: McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program

Purpose: McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act provides competitive subgrants to LEAs to expand support services to children experiencing homelessness; to create greater awareness and sensitivity of district and school staff about ways to identify students who may be experiencing homelessness; and to provide additional services to these children to increase their chances for academic success. LEAs or LEA consortia may apply for these federal funds to provide activities for, and services to, students experiencing homelessness, including preschool-aged homeless children, that enable such children and youth to enroll in, attend, and succeed in school.

LEA Allocations: This three-year competitive grant is awarded based on the quality and comprehensiveness of applicants program plans. Applicants should determine specific needs of students identified as homeless with the district and develop a plan to address the specific needs. Plans should focus on addressing three indicators: student achievement performance outcomes, school/LEA support outcomes, and collaboration outcomes.

Legislation: <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn>

Resources: Louisiana Residency and Referral(Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, and French): <http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/school-policy>

BESE BULLETIN 741 - Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators, Revised December 2015:
[§341 Homeless Children and Youth](#)

National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE): <http://nche.ed.gov>