Title I, A and Homeless Coordination

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ESSA—the more things change, the more they stay the same
• More alignment between EDGAR and ESSA
• Still have many of the statutory requirements required by NCLB
• Timely and meaningful consultation
• Coordinate and integrate federally-funded programs
• Focus on student performance

Guidance on Title I, A ESSA
USDE has not published any “Non-Regulatory” guidance on Title I, A, which is why we:
• Refer back to statute,
• Refer to TEA for guidance,
• Refer to NCLB rules when applicable,
• Make the best possible decision with the information we have.

Purpose of Title I, A
ESSA Statute:
The purpose of this title is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.

Purpose of Title I, A
This purpose can be accomplished by —
(1) ensuring that high-quality academic assessments, accountability systems, teacher preparation and training, curriculum, and instructional materials are aligned with challenging State academic standards so that students, teachers, parents, and administrators can measure progress against common expectations for student academic achievement;
(2) meeting the educational needs of low-achieving children in our Nation’s highest-poverty schools, limited English proficient children, migratory children, children with disabilities, Indian children, neglected or delinquent children, and young children in need of reading assistance;
(3) closing the achievement gap between high- and low-performing children, especially the achievement gaps between minority and nonminority students, and between disadvantaged children and their more advantaged peers;
(4) holding schools, local educational agencies, and States accountable for improving the academic achievement of all students, and identifying and turning around low-performing schools that have failed to provide a high-quality education to their students, while providing alternatives to students in such schools to enable the students to receive a high-quality education;
(5) distributing and targeting resources sufficiently to make a difference to local educational agencies and schools where needs are greatest;
(6) improving and strengthening accountability, teaching, and learning by using State assessment systems designed to ensure that students are meeting challenging State academic achievement and content standards and increasing achievement overall, but especially for the disadvantaged;
(7) providing greater decision making authority and flexibility to schools and teachers in exchange for greater responsibility for student performance;
Purpose of Title I, A

(8) providing children an enriched and accelerated educational program, including the use of schoolwide programs or additional services that increase the amount and quality of instructional time;
(9) promoting schoolwide reform and ensuring the access of children to effective, scientifically based instructional strategies and challenging academic content;
(10) significantly elevating the quality of instruction by providing staff in participating schools with substantial opportunities for professional development;
(11) coordinating services under all parts of this title with each other, with other educational services, and, to the extent feasible, with other agencies providing services to youth, children, and families; and
(12) affording parents substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.

The Importance of Planning

- The ESSA Consolidated Application is due July 1 for most LEAs

Title I Allocations

- ISDE
- EA
- Districtwide Set Asides
- SW T1A
- BW T1A
- NS T1 E
- NC, NE T1

Title I, A Districtwide Set Asides

A. Districtwide Parent and Family Engagement (required for LEAs with more than $500,000 allocation)
B. Title I, A Services to Eligible Private School Students (required if students/schools identified)
C. Preschool Programs
D. Administration of Title I, A Programs
E. Districtwide Professional Development Activities
F. Services to Homeless Students (required)
G. Services to Students Residing in Local Facilities for the Neglected
H. Services to Students Residing in Local Facilities for the Delinquent
I. Foster Care Transportation
J. Other

Homeless Set Aside

- All LEAs that receive Title I Part A funds must reserve funds to support homeless students. 20 U.S.C. §6313(c)(3)(A).
- The amount of Title I funds reserved for homeless children and youth may be determined based on a needs assessment, and must be based on the total allocation received by the LEA and reserved prior to any allowable expenditure or transfers by the LEA. 20U.S.C. §6313(c)(3)(B) and (C)(i).

Set Aside Best Practice

- Review prior years allocations and expenses, two to three year period
- Base the amount on a per pupil allocation (PPA) average over several years
- Number of homeless students x PPA
- Understand local context
  - Allocation
  - Prior year needs/issues
  - Weather related events

Amend as needed
Based on percent of students considered economically disadvantaged
- Either 35% or above
- Or, higher than the LEA average
- Must serve campuses over 75% economically disadvantaged
- Must serve equitably or by rank and serve

Schoolwide v Targeted Assistance
- If a campus is designed as Schoolwide, every student on the campus is eligible to receive Title I services
- Targeted Assistance campuses must serve only a selected number or percent of students and those students must be identified using “multiple educationally related criteria”
  - Homeless Students on TA campuses are automatically eligible for services based on their homeless status.

EDGAR and ESSA - Working together for the greater good

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<tr>
<th>EDGAR</th>
<th>ESSA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reasonable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Necessary</td>
<td>DIP/CIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allowable</td>
<td>Evidence Based Strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allocable</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
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What’s Your Plan?
- State Title I plans must describe how the state educational agency (SEA) will provide support to local educational agencies (LEA) to ensure the identification, enrollment, attendance, and stability of homeless children and youth. 20U.S.C. §6311(g)(1)(F).
- Local Title I plans must describe the services the LEA will provide to support the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youth, including services provided with the Title I homeless reservation, in coordination with the services the LEA provides under the McKinney-Vento Act. 20U.S.C. §6312(b)(6).

CNA: Do I Have To?
Where does it state that I MUST conduct this?
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act / Every Student Succeeds Act
  - Title I, Part A
  - Other ESSA Programs
- Texas Education Code
  - Chapter 39, Sections 11.252(a)(1-2) and 11.253
Title I funds reserved for homeless children and youth may be used for services not ordinarily provided by Title I, including local liaisons and transportation to the school of origin. 20 U.S.C. §6313(c)(3)(C)(ii).

Is That Allowable?

Title I, Part A funds may be used to provide services to homeless children and youths, including those in Title I schools, that may not ordinarily be provided to other Title I students. (ESEA section 1113(c)(3)(C)(ii)).

For example, to help homeless students effectively take advantage of educational opportunities, an LEA may use Title I, Part A funds to provide, where appropriate, items or services including, but not limited to—

- Items of clothing, particularly if necessary to meet a school's dress or uniform requirement;
- Clothing and shoes necessary to participate in physical education classes;
- Student fees that are necessary to participate in the general education program;
- Personal school supplies such as backpacks and notebooks;
- Birth certificates necessary to enroll in school;
- Immunizations;
- Food;
- Medical and dental services;
- Eyeglasses and hearing aids;
- Counseling services to address anxiety related to homelessness that is impeding learning;
- Outreach services to students living in shelters, motels, and other temporary residences;
- Extended learning time (before and after school, Saturday classes, summer school) to compensate for lack of quiet time for homework in shelters or other overcrowded living conditions;
- Tutoring services, especially in shelters or other locations where homeless students live;
- Parental involvement specifically oriented to reaching out to parents of homeless students;
- Fees for AP and IB testing;
- Fees for college entrance exams such as SAT or ACT;
- and GED testing for school-age students.

Two principles govern the use of Title I, Part A funds to provide such services to homeless students. First, the services must be reasonable and necessary to assist homeless students to take advantage of educational opportunities. (ESEA section 1113(c)(3)(A); 2 CFR § 200.403(a)).

Second, Title I, Part A funds must be used only as a last resort when funds or services are not available from other public or private sources, such as the USDA’s National School Lunch Program and Breakfast Program, public health clinics, or local discretionary funds (sometimes provided by the PTA) used to provide similar services for economically disadvantaged students generally. (ESEA section 1115(e)(2)).
Absolute No’s

▪ Rental assistance or vouchers
▪ Utilities
▪ Hotel or Motel stays
▪ Clothing for family members not enrolled in school
▪ Medical exams for parents
▪ Physicals for sports
▪ Uniforms for sports
▪ Tux/Prom dresses
▪ Gas/Grocery gift cards are strongly discouraged unless there’s a very clear audit trail.

The More You Know

NEW under ESSA:
LEA report cards must include information on student achievement on the State’s assessments and high school graduation rates, disaggregated by homeless status.

Auditable Documentation

▪ CNA
▪ CIP/DIP
▪ Administrative Procedures Manual
▪ Student Records
▪ Notes/Minutes from meetings with parents
▪ Notes/Minutes from meetings with colleagues regarding program coordination
▪ Copies of all required purchasing documents
▪ +++ All the items your LEA keeps for Title I and MKV Documentation

Resources

▪ School House Connection
▪ Education for Homeless Youths Non-Regulatory Guidance
▪ THEO Title I
▪ Foster Care Non-Regulatory Guidance
▪ TEA Homeless Site

Questions

Contact Information

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