



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

Office of Charter Schools

GUIDANCE for QUALITY

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Federal Program Monitoring and Support

The Federal Program Monitoring and Support Division supports approximately \$514,000,000 in federal funds provided to districts and schools each year. The primary role of the Division is to provide grants administration, program monitoring, data collection and reporting, and to facilitate the necessary technical assistance to ensure not only compliance, but quality programs for students. Compliance is the first step toward program quality; monitoring is the springboard to providing technical assistance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Title I, Part A– Donna Brown 919-807-3957

Title II, Part A– Elaine Ellington 919-807-3374

GUIDANCE RESOURCES

[Federal Program Monitoring and Support Web Page](#)

[Temporary Charter School Assignments](#)

[Title I, Part A](#)

[Title II, Part A](#)

MISSION :: To ensure that federal and state education funds contribute to the goal of all students meeting or exceeding rigorous state standards.

TITLE I, PART A

This 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. 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.

Title I reaches about 12.5 million students enrolled in both public and private schools. Title I funds may be used for children from preschool age to high school, but most of the students served (65 percent) are in

grades 1 through 6; another 12 percent are in preschool and kindergarten programs.

Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards in order to reinforce and amplify efforts to improve teaching and learning for students farthest from meeting State standards. Individual public schools with poverty rates above 40 percent may use Title I funds, along with other Federal, State, and local funds, to operate a "schoolwide program" to upgrade the instructional program for the whole school. Schools with poverty rates below 40 percent, or those choosing not to operate a schoolwide program, offer a "targeted assistance program" in which the school identifies students who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet the State's challenging performance standards, then designs, in consultation with parents, staff, and district staff, an instructional program to meet the needs of those students. Both schoolwide and targeted assistance programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement.

TITLE II, PART A

Title II, Part A is intended to increase student academic achievement by improving teacher and principal quality. This includes increasing the number of Highly Qualified teachers in classrooms, improving the skills of principals and assistant principals in schools, and increasing the effectiveness of teachers and principals.

Program Requirements

- LEAs must conduct an assessment of local needs for professional development and hiring. There should be a clear connection between identified needs and Title IIA activities.
- Title IIA Activities must be
 1. aligned with state standards;
 2. based on a review of research; and
 3. designed to have a substantial, measurable and positive impact on student achievement.
- LEAs must target funds to schools that
 1. have the lowest proportion of HQ teachers;
 2. have the largest average class size; or
 3. are identified for school improvement.
- LEAs must develop a PD plan that addresses the needs of teacher and principals.
- LEAs must ensure that all professional development activities are coordinated with other federal, state, and locally funded PD.
- LEAs must ensure that teachers, paraprofessionals, principals, other relevant school personnel, and parents collaborate in the planning of Title II-A activities.
- LEA shall use Title II-A fund to get core content teachers and Title I paras HQ, if necessary.

Allowable Uses of Funding

- Recruiting, Hiring, and Retaining Highly Qualified Teachers and Principals
- Programs and activities designed to improve the quality of the teaching force
- Teacher Advancement initiatives that emphasize multiple career paths and pay differentiation
- Professional development activities that improve the knowledge of teachers, principals and superintendents
- Hiring Highly Qualified teachers to reduce class size

