

ESEA/NCLB Title I, Part A
Program Plan Federal Requirements and Guidance
(Excerpted from: NCLB Title I, Part A, NJDOE Reference Manual and
Trenton Board of Education (TBOE) Consolidated ESEA/NCLB Plan)

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/title1/>

The purpose of Title I, Part A 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.

The purpose of Title IA 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 decisionmaking authority and flexibility to schools and teachers in exchange for greater responsibility for student performance;

(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.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT (SIA, PART A) GUIDANCE FOR FEDERAL FUNDS

I. PURPOSE---The School Improvement Grant, SIA, PART A, provides additional funds for Priority Schools in need of improvement to augment the programs outlined in the NCLB Consolidated Application intended to close the achievement gap. These funds can be used to expand the programs and services being funded by Title I, Part A or can help the school address additional **priority problems the school identified in their needs assessment and stated in the approved Annual School Improvement Plan (SIP)**.

2. BUDGET AND BUDGET JUSTIFICATION--As the recipient of SIA, Part A funds the LEA must file a budget application and complete the EWEG screens under the SIA, Part A tab in addition to completing the SIA, Part A section of the NCLB Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan must be uploaded to EWEG. Excel budget pages must also be uploaded for SIA, Part A funds. All Priority School recipients of SIA, Part A funds must file a budget with the following justification attachment aligned directly to 2015-16 Approved School Improvement Plan for each budget line item funded under Federal Title I, SIA, Part A:

1. SMART Goal (Use copy of page from approved SIP and circle)
2. Interim Goal (Use copy of page from approved SIP and circle)
3. Corresponding Action Step (Use copy of page from approved SIP and circle)
4. Specify performance expectations for students and staff learning
5. Funding Category (Budget Detail Forms and Budget Summary will address item 5)
6. Funding Request (Budget Detail Forms and Budget Summary will address item 6)

NOTE: Item 4 provides performance expectations for each budget line. Action Step performance expectation may be repeated for budget lines supporting the same Action Step.

3. TITLE I, SIA PART A--Allowable Uses for SIA, Part A funds stated in EWEG with all funds to be expended as of June 30:

1. Extended Day Programs for improving student achievement in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math
2. Instructional materials/supplies for supporting improvement of student achievement in ELA and Math, including computer devices under \$2000 per unit.

3. Instructional equipment (\$2,000 or more per unit) and software to support student achievement and including the integration of technology in the teaching and learning of ELA and Math
4. Professional Development activity staff stipends and related supplies for staff to support needs assessment and to address standards-based and scientifically-research based approaches and strategies for ELA and Math

Notes: (a.) Time constraints and RFP process threshold of \$3,500 for professional services limit services to cost under \$3,500 and with a service completion date not later than May 30, 2016; (b.) The district must maintain effective control of all property and assets, including computing devices regardless of cost. These controls include adherence to federal inventory and asset tagging requirements at both the district and school levels.

SUPPORT FOR THE COMPLETION OF BUDGET JUSTIFICATION AND BUDGET DETAIL FORMS WILL BE PROVIDED BY EVERENE DOWNING. THESE COMPLETED DOCUMENTS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO AND REVIEWED IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT. AFTER FINAL PROGRAM AND FISCAL REVIEW TITLE I SIA DOCUMENTS WILL BE SUBMITTED BY EVERENE DOWNING TO OUR DISTRICT RAC TEAM. THE RAC OFFICE WILL APPROVE AND REFLECT THESE SIA BUDGET AMENDMENTS IN THE APPROVED 2015-16 PRIORITY SCHOOL SIP BUDGETS.