

Title 1, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

Possibilities of Funding High Quality Preschool

- Federal grant allocated to state education agency (SEA).
- SEA distributes funds to local education agencies (LEA) on the basis of a formula accounting for percentage of low-income children, as defined by each state.
- Expenditures for children from birth-five are allowable
 - ✓ Title I funded preschool may be provided to any child below the age at which the school district provides elementary education, including children from birth up to the age of school entry
- Can be used for preschool services for at-risk children within Title 1 funded schools and school districts
 - ✓ **If less than 40 percent, services must be targeted to children at risk of failing to meet academic standards**
 - Eligibility in a targeted-assistance program is open to children considered at risk for meeting state achievement standards, as determined by multiple, objective criteria established by district
 - Children who have participated in Head Start, Even Start, Early Reading First, or a Title 1 preschool program at any time over the past two years; children without homes; and children in institutions for neglected or delinquent children are also eligible for Title 1-funded preschool services.
 - ✓ **If 40 percent or more of the children in a school are low income, can be a school-wide reform serving all children**
 - **Eligibility in a Title I school wide program is open to all children living within the attendance area of that school**
- A LOCAL DECISION
 - ✓ Either the LEA (school district) or at the school building level.

Benefits of using Title I funds for preschool programs

- Use ARRA Title I funds for first year start up costs.
 - ✓ **Approved programs become eligible for EPS pupil reimbursement**
- Reach families at risk but above poverty level or Head Start eligibility
- Provide programs that meet high quality early childhood program criteria
- Can be used for comprehensive services
 - Family Support and referral
 - Home visiting programs for infants and toddlers
 - Health, Dental
 - Nutrition
- Can be used for diagnostic screening and assessment to determine at special needs/risk factors of children
- Can be used for professional development for teachers working with young children at risk of school failure
 - May be used for professional development of teachers and paraprofessionals working in Title I preschools
 - Can form partnerships for professional development of non Title I preschool teachers if children in the preschool are likely to attend a Title I elementary school
- Can go beyond school based and serve children in other community early childhood settings
 - Can braid and maximize funding with community agencies (i.e. Head Start, Child Care)
- Transition to Kindergarten Activities

Potential Uses of Title I funding:

- **Create a new program with ARRA Title I funds**
 - ✓ **First year start up costs**
- Expand an existing program
- Improve quality of an existing program
- Title I funds can be used by either the LEA or at the school level for preschool or comparable programs, such as Even Start, Head Start, Early Reading First, and other preschool programs.
 - **Expand or Supplement Head Start**
 - ✓ Provide Head Start services to children who are eligible for Title I but are not eligible for Head Start or cannot be served by Head Start due to lack of capacity
 - ✓ Provide additional services for Head Start children who are also eligible for Title I, including extending Head Start program days or hours; provide services during times when Head Start is not operating or add extra personnel to work with Title I eligible children
 - ✓ Provide educational services for children who are eligible for both Head Start and Title I, while Head Start pays for the supportive services.
 - **Expand or Supplement Even Start**
 - ✓ Early Childhood component of an Even Start Program;
 - ✓ Parent training that helps assist in their child's education
 - ✓ Initiatives to increase parent involvement, including family literacy
 - ✓ Can use an Even Start model and integrate early childhood education, adult literacy or adult basic education, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program and comply with Even Start program requirements
 - **Partner with a community agency**
 - ✓ Title I funds can be used in conjunction with other existing programs, including state funded preschool, community based childcare and the Child Care and Development Block Grant.
 - ✓ Title I preschools may be located in public schools or other early childhood settings in the community
 - ✓ Title I funds can be used to provide staff and resources to community programs and to expand access to preschool for at risk students in areas where the schools do not have space to provide preschool programs
- Title I funds can pay for:
 - ✓ Minor Remodeling
- **Title 1 Programs must:**
 - Comply with federal Head Start Education Performance Standards
 - Include a parental involvement component
 - LEAs must have a plan for coordinating and integrating Title I with other early childhood educational services, such as Head Start, Even Start, and other preschools, as well as a plan for the transition of children into kindergarten.