**Tool #11: Overview of Title IA, Part A- Improving Basic Programs**

**What does the Title IA Program Do?**

The Title IA program provides supplemental educational services to eligible children so that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education.

**How are Title IA funds generated?**

Funds are generated based on the number of students from low-income families who reside in the participating public school attendance areas and attend private schools, whether the private schools are located within or outside of district boundaries. For example, if your school is located in Seattle, but eligible low income students from your school reside in Seattle, Burien, and Renton, you may be eligible to receive Title IA services funded by all three districts.

**How can my school generate Title IA funds?**

Schools should identify and report low income students to their LEAs annually. They can do this through administering a family income survey or collecting this information through a tuition assistance program. Low income students are those who qualify for free or reduced lunch. Tools 13 and 14 are family income surveys in English and Spanish which outline the qualifying information for the 2016-2017 school year.

**How do I determine which students are eligible to participate in Title IA?**

Private school students who meet both criteria below are eligible for services:

1.) reside in the participating public school attendance area 2.) are failing or most at risk of failing to meet state academic standards

\*While funding for this program is generated by low-income students, students do **NOT** have to come from low-income families to receive Title IA services.

\*The private school and the LEA must agree on equitable (fair, not necessarily the same as the public district) criteria for determining student eligibility (ie standardized test scores, teacher/ principal recommendations, etc.). Tool 15 includes teacher referral forms that you can use as one measure of student eligibility.

**What types of services can my school access through the Title IA program?**

1. **Supplemental services**: Instructional services outside of the regular classroom, extended learning time (before/after school & during the summer), family literacy, counseling, mentoring, early childhood learning support, home tutoring, computer-assisted instruction, or other as agreed upon with your LEA. These services can be provided individually or in combination.

2. **Teacher professional development**- for teachers of title-I served students.

3. **Family engagement-** conducted independently or in conjunction with the district’s regular parent involvement program.

Tool 12 include ideas for supplemental services, teacher professional development, and parent involvement.

**Who provides Title IA services?**

1. LEA/ school district employees
2. Outside contractors
3. Private school teachers if services are provided outside of the time they are employed by the private school and they meet district qualification requirements.

\*If you express during consultation that you prefer an outside contractor to provide Title IA services and the LEA disagrees with you, the LEA is obligated under law to provide a written analysis of the reasons it has decided not to adopt your request.

**Are there any important changes to the Title IA program under *ESSA*?**

**Services:** In addition to the traditional Title IA services, new services are now available. These include: counseling, mentoring, and tutoring, which can be provided individually or in group settings. The program now focuses on providing all students with an enriched curriculum and educational experience. This means that services can be provided in all subjects, not just Math and ELA. High school students can now participate in dual or concurrent enrollment programs in which they receive high school credits while earning postsecondary credits through an institute of higher education.

**Written Analysis:** If the district disagrees with any of your requests regarding the Title IA provision of services, it must provide a written analysis of the reasons for its decision. This was not required in the past.

**Time of Service:** Consultation must now include a discussion of the approximate time of day services will be provided.

**Funding ($$$):** Funds allocated for Title IA services to private schools are now determined from the full amount of the district’s allocation. In the past, the district was allowed to set aside funds for district purposes before determining the private school’s allocation. ***Private schools should expect to see greater funding for Title IA services!***

**Fiscal obligation:** Funds are now obligated in the fiscal year in which they were received by the public school district. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that school districts use the funds available in the fiscal year for which they were appropriated. If there are extenuating circumstances in which a district is unable to obligate all funds within this timeframe in a responsible manner, agreed upon services were not provided, or no private school students were eligible for a program during the fiscal year, the funds may remain available during the subsequent school year.