

Title I, Part A Authorized Activities

Title I funds may only be used to pay for authorized activities to meet the special needs of educationally deprived children in participating schools. These funds should be used 1) to enable schools to provide opportunities for children to acquire the knowledge and skills contained in the CCCS and to meet the challenging state performance standards developed for all children; and 2) to provide children with an enriched and accelerated educational program, including, when appropriate, the use of the arts, through schoolwide programs or through additional services that increase the amount and quality of instructional time. If Title I funds are used for a targeted assistance program, funded activities should use effective instructional strategies that 1) give primary consideration to providing extended learning time such as an extended school year, before- and after-school programs, and summer programs and opportunities; 2) help provide an accelerated, high-quality curriculum, including applied learning; and 3) minimize removing children from the regular classroom during regular school hours for Title I instruction.

Authorized items and activities that support the goals and objectives above include the following:

- Acquisition of equipment and materials directly related to instruction. An LEA must determine that a) the equipment is needed to effectively operate its existing program; b) existing equipment it already has will not be sufficient; and (c) the costs are reasonable.
- Preschool programs for children, particularly children participating in a Head Start or Even Start program.
- Acquisition of books and school library resources.
- Employment of special instructional personnel, school counselors, and other pupil services personnel.
- Employment and training of paraprofessionals.
- Training and professional development of teachers, paraprofessionals, librarians, other instructional and pupil services personnel, and, as appropriate, early childhood education professionals. The cost of training personnel not paid with Title I funds is an allowable charge if the training is specifically related to the Title I program and is not designed to meet the general needs of the LEA, an entire school, or children in a school or class.
- Construction, if necessary, of school facilities. The LEA must demonstrate that the proposed construction is essential to the success of the Title I project, that it has made every effort to consider other funds to pay for the construction, and that there is no alternative space that meets the needs of the project.
- Parental involvement activities.
- Planning for and evaluation of Title I projects.
- Other allowable activities that would promote statewide reform and ensure access of children from the earliest grades to effective instructional strategies and challenging academic content that includes intensive complex thinking and problem-solving experiences.

The law prohibits the use of Title I funds vs. general aid to benefit an entire school district or, except in schoolwide programs, all children in a school, grade, or class. In schoolwide programs, Title I funds may be used to upgrade the entire educational program of the school. In targeted assistance schools, an LEA may use Title I funds only for projects that are designed and implemented to meet the special educational needs of children who are properly identified and selected for participation in the program, and that are included in the LEA's application as approved by the SEA.

Authorized Activities for School Improvement

- Professional development activities for teachers, principal, paraprofessionals, and other support staff of high quality that address the academic achievement area that caused the school to be identified for school improvement.
- Activities based on scientific research that address and enrich the core academic areas and ensure students achieve the state's proficiency level.
- Establishment of a mentoring program for teachers.
- Activities provided before school, after school, during the summer, weekends and during any extension of the school year.
- Parental involvement initiatives.
- Technical assistance to analyze data from the assessments; identify and address solutions; implement professional development, instructional strategies, and scientifically based methods of instruction; and revise the school's budget and allocate resources more effectively.
- Parent involvement and notification.

