

**NJDOE Title 1 Arts Integration Pilot Program
Technical Assistance Seminar Questions & Answers**

1. **Can multiple schools apply from the same district? Page 5, Section 1.2 of the *Title 1 Arts Integration Pilot Program* NGO stipulates that, “LEAs may apply on behalf of one (1) of its eligible Title 1 schools.” Can you provide confirmation/clarification about this?**

No. Schools may not apply as an entity. The LEA must apply, and may do so on behalf of one of its schools only. It is up to the discretion of the district to determine the methodology for selecting which Title I school is best suited to represent the district, whether by lottery, pre-screening of applications or project abstracts or by some other means.

2. **Is it a requirement that the arts integration proposed in the school project activities take place during the school day?**

Not necessarily. Project activities involving arts integration may take place before, during and after school. A school designated as a Title I targeted assistance school must have its arts integration project place after school and/or during the summer. A school with the designation Title I schoolwide status may have its arts integration projects take place during the school day and/or after school and/or during the summer.

3. **May we propose an after-school program?**

Yes. Schools may implement the arts integration pilot program as an afterschool program. After-school programs would be permitted for both a Title I targeted assistance school, or a Title I schoolwide status school.

4. **How are the arts being defined, for the purposes of this grant?**

The arts are defined in New Jersey Administrative Code (6A:9B-9.3) as Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts. The same definitions holds true for the grant. Media Arts can be addressed from the lens of the four arts disciplines. Spoken Word could be integrated through English Language Arts, but would require the inclusion of one of the four artistic disciplines, as defined in Code.

5. **Can the proposed ‘integration’ encompass more than one subject?**

Yes. For the purposes of this project the following definition applies: “Arts integration is a teaching strategy in which the arts are integrated with the non-arts curriculum to deepen students’ understanding of both” (Isenberg and Jalongo, 2010, Werner and Freeman, 2001). However, the purpose of Title I, Part A is to provide supplemental instructional opportunities to meet the state’s academic content standards. Grantees should integrate activities in content areas in which the state measures student performance (i.e., English language arts, mathematics, science).

6. **Can funds from the Title I Arts Integration Pilot Program be used to cover teacher stipends for training and planning outside of contracted dates and times?**

Yes; as long as the training is directly associated with the proposed project. Also, any use of funds for stipends may not supplant state/local funds.

7. **Can funds be used from the grant to pay existing teachers (who are employees of the district) or teaching artists contracted by the district to deliver Professional Development, since it is outside the parameters of their contract?**
Yes; as long as long as the professional develop occurs outside the teachers' regularly contracted hours. Teachers may not be paid for PD that occurs during the school day.
8. **Can funds from the grant be used to cover substitute fees for teachers' out-of-class time while they are engaged in Professional Development?**
Yes; as long as the PD teachers attend is directly associated with the proposed project, and requires substitutes for classroom coverage in the teachers' absence.
9. **Can the grant support student transportation for a culminating performance/student showcase at a performing arts center of theater?**
Yes; as long as the trip is for instructional purposes.
10. **Does the one-third cap on spending outside the school for services of partnering organizations include *both* professional development *and* teaching artist fees?**
Two-thirds of the monies granted to the school for the pilot must remain within the school. The one-third cap is for total expenditures.
11. **If you pilot a summer program, is it okay if it's intended to be a summer intervention that is not necessarily replicated during the school year?**
Yes.
12. **Will the Program Evaluator contracted by the NJDOE provide LEAs with school-level data and school-level reports?**
No. The participating pilot schools will be responsible for collecting their own data. The Program Evaluator (contracted by the NJDOE) will conduct the analysis of the data and provide guidance to the participating schools on data collection that yields good information.
13. **Under the grant, can you pay a staff member as a writer or planner, so long as the work is done during off-school time?**
Yes.
14. **Can an administrative stipend be part of the grants' budget as an allowable expense?**
Possibly. The district could budget a stipend to cover the cost of the administrator's grant-related duties that are above and beyond his/her normal duties.
15. **Can Pre-K Arts integration programs be conducted at district, Pre-K partner community schools?**
No. The program must be conducted at the Title I school articulated in the district's application.
16. **If your project proposal is not school-wide, but a targeted assistance project, can your arts integration program service the entire school?**

No. The program may serve only those students participating in the school's targeted assistance program. .

17. Can the 'project director' be paid a small stipend?

Possibly. The district could budget a stipend to cover the cost of the project director's grant-related duties that are above and beyond his/her normal duties.

18. When will schools be notified if they are chosen as grant recipients?

Early December, 2016