



No Child Left Behind

What is No Child Left Behind?

The **No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001** is a federal law to improve education for all children. The goal of NCLB is to have every student on grade level by 2014.

What are Learning Standards?

Learning standards describe what children should know, understand, and be able to do. Schools use the learning standards to plan what they are going to teach.

In New York State, there are Learning Standards in seven different areas.

- English Language Arts
- Language other than English
- Mathematics, Science, and Technology
- Social Studies
- Career Development and Occupational Studies
- Health, Physical Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences
- The Arts

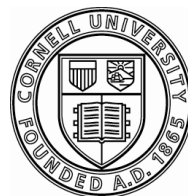
As part of *school accountability*, No Child Left Behind requires schools to give standardized tests that measure how well students are meeting the state learning standards.

Parents play an important role in a child's education. Research shows that children are more successful when parents and schools work together.

To encourage parental involvement NCLB says schools need:

A written school and district **parental involvement policy** explaining how schools will involve parents. Schools also need to have a **school-parent compact** explaining how schools and parents will work together to help children be successful.

The New York State Parental Information and Resource Centers (PIRC) can give you information and ideas to become more involved in your child's education and work together with the school. For more specific information on NCLB, visit us on the web at www.nyspirc.org.



Accountability

Schools must show that their students are making *Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)* and meeting the state learning standards. Schools show adequate yearly progress through student test scores, graduation rates, and teacher quality. This is reported to the public by the New York State Department of Education through the *New York State School Report Cards*. Ask your school for a copy of the report card or download a copy at <https://www.nystart.gov/publicweb/>.

A school will be identified as *In Need of Improvement* if it is a Title I School that does not show AYP for two years in a row in the same grade and subject.

Title I schools are schools that have high percentages of low income students. Ask the school if you are not sure if it is a Title I school.

Choices for Families

If your child's school is identified as *In Need of Improvement*, you may have options regarding school choice and extra tutoring services.

Public School Choice

You may request for your child to attend a different public school *in the same district* if the school your child attends is a Title I school that is identified as *In Need of Improvement*.

Supplemental Educational Services (SES)

Your child may qualify for free tutoring services if your child's school is a Title I School that is identified as *In Need of Improvement* for *two or more years* and your child qualifies for free or reduced priced lunch. You may have to provide transportation to the SES services that are offered outside of the regular school day.

High Qualifications for Teachers

No Child Left Behind requires school districts to hire well qualified teachers. Teachers must be certified in the subject and grade they teach, have a bachelor's degree or higher and have a major in the subject they teach. New teachers must pass the Content Specialty Test and teachers must keep improving their skills by attending training.

Families and Communities Together with Schools
Parental Information and Resource Center (PIRC)

Cornell Cooperative

Extension of Jefferson County Phone: 315-788-8450

203 North Hamilton Street Fax: 315-788-8461

Watertown, New York 13601 www.nyspirc.org

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