



New York State Parental Information and Resource Center

Technical Assistance Guide

An Overview of Title I requirements

Title I

Title I is a part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law.

The goal of NCLB is to have every student achieving at grade level by 2014.

The key parts of the NCLB law require states to:

- Develop learning standards that say what students should know, understand and be able to do at different grade levels.
- Test students using standardized tests that hold schools accountable for student achievement.
- Communicate the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) which is the minimum level of performance that schools must achieve each year.
- Offer families whose children attend low performing schools Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services (SES).
- Hire highly qualified teachers.
- Show the importance of parental involvement by requiring schools to have and use parental involvement policies and school-parent compacts.

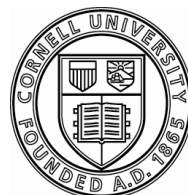
What is a Title I school?

A Title I school is a school that receives supplemental federal funding due to the high percentage of low-income students. Title I schools have 40 percent or more of their students on free or reduced-price lunch. Title I funding is intended to help close the achievement gap between low and high performing schools and ensure that all children have the opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach grade-level proficiency.

Title I school requirements

Title I schools are required to inform parents by:

- Holding an annual meeting to explain Title I policy and programs.
- Giving parents up to date academic information about their children in an easy to understand format.
- Communicating the school's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) to parents in parent-friendly language.
- Involving parents in the decision making process on how parent involvement dollars are spent.



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Title I school requirements

Parents in Title I schools:

- Must be a part of developing a written **parent involvement policy** that is distributed to all parents and to the local community and announced at a Title I annual meeting.
- Have a right to be involved in the planning and implementation of the parent involvement program in their school.
- Can receive materials and training for parents and staff to foster greater parent involvement.
- Must have the opportunity to jointly develop, with school staff, a **school-parent compact** that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. This includes the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

What can Title I funds be used for?

- Provide after-school, summer or intersession programs
- Train parents, teachers and other school staff
- Buy equipment and materials
- Support parent involvement activities
- Hire additional teachers, assistants, and specialists

Title I and parental involvement

School districts that receive more than \$500,000 from Title I must spend at least 1% of that money to support parent involvement programs and activities. That includes things like:

- Parent meetings
- Transportation and childcare for parents to participate in activities
- Money to hire parent representatives or family liaisons
- Parent resource centers in schools
- Take-home learning activities
- Parenting programs and classes

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