

Title I Information

Title I funds aim to bridge the gap between low-income students and other students. The U.S. Department of Education provides supplemental funding to local school districts to meet the needs of at-risk and low-income students.

What's it All About?

Most educators, parents and community members have heard the term Title I School thrown loosely around, but what is it? Title I is the nation's oldest and largest federally funded program, according to the U.S. Department of Education. Annually, it provides over \$14 billion to school systems across the country for students at risk of failure and living at or near poverty. In fact, over the course of the 2009-2010 school year, federal funding through this program was used by over 56,000 public schools nationwide in order for struggling students to meet state standards in a variety of subject areas.

Originally, the idea of Title I was enacted in 1965 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This policy committed to closing the achievement gap between low-income students and other students. The policy was rewritten in 1994 to improve fundamental goals of helping at-risk students. With the implementation of [No Child Left Behind](#), schools must make adequate yearly progress on state testing and focus on best teaching practices in order to continue receiving funds.

What is the Purpose of Title I Funding?

According to the U.S. Department of Education, the purpose of Title I funding, "is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach, at minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments."

The basic principles of Title I state that schools with large concentrations of low-income students will receive supplemental funds to assist in meeting student's educational goals. Low-income students are determined by the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program. For an entire school to qualify for Title I funds, at least 40% of students must enroll in the free and reduced lunch program.

Sources:

www.Ed.gov

<http://www.brighthub.com/education/k-12/articles/11105.aspx>