


Comparability Presentation

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What is Comparability?

- Comparability is a mandated fiscal requirement.
- Comparability means that an LEA may receive Title I, Part A funds only if it uses state and local funds to provide services in Title I schools that are “comparable” to services provided in non-Title I schools.

- Comparable Services – Title I Schools vs. Non-Title I Schools
- Comparable Services – All Title I Schools



Determining Comparability

Option 1: Compare Student/Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Teacher Ratio

Option 2: Compare Student/Teacher Salary Ratio

Option 3: Compare State and Local Per Pupil Expenditure Ratio

Where do I begin to determine comparability of my LEA?

- A yearly timeline for demonstrating compliance
- Identification of the office responsible for making the calculations
- Choosing the measure and process used to determine whether schools are comparable
- How and when the LEA makes adjustments in schools that are not comparable

Timeline for Determining Comparability

- September
 - Identify data collection method(s) and timeline for gathering data needed to complete calculations.
- October
 - Collect data (*Take a comparability snapshot within the second month of school, October*).
 - Meet with appropriate staff and calculate comparability.
 - Make appropriate adjustments to Title I schools shown to be non-comparable.
- November
 - Provide comparability report to NCDPI, Program Monitoring, electronically **no later than November 19th** to pdunham@dpi.state.nc.us (*Please maintain all documentation supporting the comparability calculations and any adjustments made to ensure that all Title I schools are comparable for a period of 3-years. These are auditable data.*)

Exemptions & Exclusions

- **EXEMPT**

LEAs have only one building per grade span

An LEA has only two schools, one is a large school and the other is a small school. In this case, the comparability requirement would not apply because the LEA would compare small school to itself and the large school to itself.

- **EXCLUDED SCHOOL SITES**

- Title I schools with 100 or fewer students

Testing Comparability & Making Adjustments

- The use of state and local funds to support ELL education and the excess costs of serving children with disabilities may be excluded from state and local spending.
- LEA must make any needed resource reallocations for 09-10 school year by putting **additional staff and/or funds** into the school and **documenting the adjustment.**

Which staff members should be included as instructional staff?

- Teachers and other personnel assigned to schools who provide direct instructional services
 - Music
 - Art
 - Physical education teachers
 - Librarians
 - Guidance
 - Speech therapists
- Other personnel who provide services that support instruction, such as school social workers and psychologists.

Acceptable Documentation

- Written comparability procedures
- LEA Profile
- Comparability calculation data - spreadsheet(s), enrollment figures, staff figures, amount per pupil spending, backout any federally funded spending

OR

- Proof of Exemption/Exclusions

Acceptable Documentation

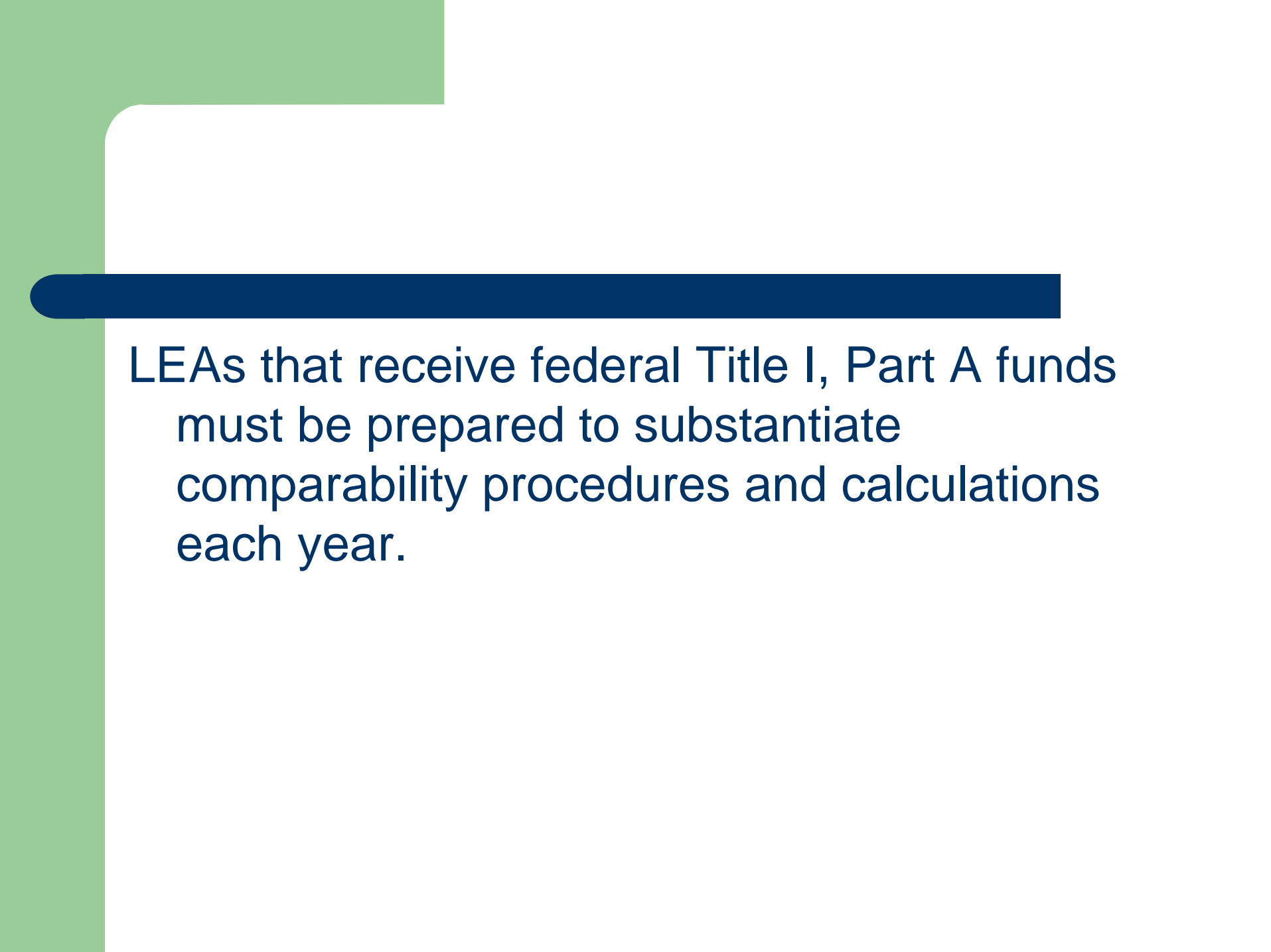
OR

Written Letter of Assurance

Assurance that a policy is in place for a district-wide salary schedule;

a policy to ensure equivalence among schools in staffing (teachers, administrators, and other staff); and

a policy to ensure equivalence among schools in the provisions of curriculum materials and supplies.



LEAs that receive federal Title I, Part A funds must be prepared to substantiate comparability procedures and calculations each year.

Website Location

- 1) <http://www.ncpublicschools.org>
 - 2) Program Areas: Compensatory Education
 - 3) Resources
 - Comparability Resources
 - Comparability Handbook
 - Comparability Forms
- <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/comped/resources/>



Questions?

Contact Information

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