

## TITLE I UPDATES June, 2015

### Title I District and Charter School Support

As noted during the April statewide meeting, regional assignments will be slightly modified for staff in 2015-16 in accordance with the new [North Carolina Prosperity Zones](#). Additionally, our division has experienced several staff changes. While we are working to fill vacant positions as quickly as possible, we want to ensure that sufficient support is provided to local education agencies (LEAs) and charter schools particularly as you develop and submit your funding applications through the web-based grants management system, the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP). Attached to this email please find a list of program administrators that have been temporarily assigned to provide technical assistance to you effective June 1, 2015.

### 2015-16 Planning Allotments

The 2015-16 planning allotments for Title I are attached to this email and should be uploaded in BAAS and the CCIP system by close of business, June 1, 2015. Please remember that you may begin working on the Planning Tool at any time, but for Title I application purposes, you will first need to complete the Eligible Schools Summary Report (ESSR) in PowerSchool. At this time, ESSR is being updated to capture a new option for Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and is scheduled to open by **Friday, June 5, 2015**.

### CCIP Funding Application Reminders

Under the ESEA Flexibility and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, some changes have occurred related to Title I and Title II funds and programming. The following provides reminders related to these changes as well as some general reminders about funding applications.

- **Expanded Use of Title I Funds for Homeless Children and Youth** - LEAs must reserve funds at the district level specifically to address the needs of homeless children and youth regardless of whether they attend a Title I school as outlined in section 1113(c)(3)(A) of the ESEA. New authority outlined in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, expands the allowable use of Title I funds to support costs associated with transporting homeless children and youth to their school of origin or to pay the salary of a homeless liaison, both requirements of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento). In CCIP, there are two separate lines to enter the reservations-- 1) "Homeless (Section 1113(c)(3)(A) comparable to Title I PPA); and 2) "Homeless (Consolidated Appropriations Act 2014)" for reserving Title I funds for transportation costs and homeless liaison salaries, as needed. As always, we strongly encourage Title I staff to work collaboratively with Homeless Education staff to determine the amount of reservations to ensure that the needs of homeless students are met.



- **Intervention Plans for Focus and Priority Schools** – Beginning in 2012-13, a number of schools were identified through the state’s approved ESEA Flexibility Request as “focus” and “priority” schools. If you created separate Action Steps for specific focus and priority schools in 2014-15, it is not required that you modify these Action Steps, rather the existing interventions will be copied forward from the previous year for review. Once new schools are identified (likely in August), we will ask that the CCIP Planning Tool be revised to ensure that interventions are identified based on the new list of schools.
- **State Plans to Ensure Equitable Access to Effective Educators** - Consistent with section 1111(b)(8)(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), each State educational agency (SEA) must develop and submit to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) a State Plan to Ensure Equitable Access to Excellent Educators (Equity Plan). The plan must describe “steps the State education agency will take to ensure that poor and minority children are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, unqualified, or out-of-field teachers.” The Equity Plan is due to USED on June 1, 2015; however, it is expected that USED feedback on the plan will not be received until sometime later in the summer. Acknowledging that local Equity Plans will need to be revised once the State’s Equity Plan is finalized, please submit the most current local plan available in CCIP (Related Documents section of the Title II Funding Application).
- **Extension Requests** – The general due date for submitting funding applications through CCIP is June 30, 2015. If you need additional time in order to complete the application process, please send the request to me via email at [donna.brown@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:donna.brown@dpi.nc.gov). Please indicate in the email the anticipated date of completion.
- **REAP Grants** – Allotments for Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) grants, specifically the Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS) grants and REAP-Flexibility under the Small Rural Schools Achievement (SRSA) program will likely be available near the end of August.
- **School Improvement 1003(a)** – Funds available to priority schools in program report code (PRC) 105 will not be calculated until the new list of schools becomes available later on this summer.

### The Community Eligibility Provision and Title I, Part A

As you are aware, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 provides an alternative to traditional methods of determining the percent of students eligible for free or reduced price lunch meals within a school. This alternative is referred to as the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). The CEP permits eligible schools to provide meal service to all students at no charge, regardless of economic status.

For 2015-16, there will be three (3) options for determining Title I within-district allocations as it relates to the number of low-income students and poverty percentages for each school.

- Option 1 - use direct certification data (i.e., directly certified and categorically eligible students) in all schools regardless of CEP participation.
- Option 2 – use direct certification data in CEP schools and household application data in non-CEP schools. A 1.6 multiplier will be applied to the CEP school low-income numbers.
- Option 3 – use direct certification data in CEP and non-CEP schools AND apply the 1.6 multiplier in all schools.

The third option would result in a higher poverty percentage for each school compared to using direct certification data alone for the purpose of within-district Title I allocations.

The Federal Program Monitoring and Support Division will continue working collaboratively with the Office of School Nutrition to provide local staff with the information needed to make decisions around the CEP. We encourage you to work with your local child nutrition staff to ensure that you make well-informed decisions for your schools and students.

Additional resources on the CEP and its relationship to Title I Part A funding may be found [HERE](#).

### **SAVE THE DATE - New Director Institute**

Please mark your calendars for the 2015-16 New Director Institute. The two-day institute will be held at The Jane S. McKimmon Center in Raleigh, NC, on July 15-16, 2015. The McKimmon Center is located on the campus of NC State University. More information is available [HERE](#).

The focus of this training will align with our Title I Handbook specifically for new Title I Directors. If you are in your first three years as Title I Director, this training is for you. We plan to have veteran Title I Directors from various districts share lessons learned over the years, as well as have NCDPI program administrators present on various topics from including Comparability Reporting, Title II, REAP grants, and Neglected and Delinquent programming.

To register for the Institute, please use the following link: [New Director Registration Form](#).