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# Pulaski County Schools Overview of Federal Programs

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## **Title I: Academic Achievement of Disadvantaged Students**

- Purpose: Enable schools to provide opportunities for at-risk and disadvantaged children to acquire the knowledge and skills contained in the challenging State content standards and to meet the challenging State performance standards developed for all children.
- .When choosing how to spend Title I funds, schools must ask:
  - Do I really need this?
  - Do I need to spend these funds to meet the purposes and needs of the program?
  - Do I have the capacity to use what I am purchasing?
  - Did I pay a fair rate and can I prove it?
  - Would I be comfortable defending this purchase?
  - Is the proposed cost consistent with the underlying needs of the program?
- For Professional Learning, schools must ask these questions:
  - Is the workshop or conference justified in the Title I Schoolwide Plan?
  - Does the agenda of the training address Title I related issues?
  - Is the cost reasonable? Is the workshop necessary?
- Required documents
  - Student/Parent/Teacher Compact
  - District and School Family Engagement Plans
  - Schoolwide Plans
  - Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)
  - Flexible Learning Program Plan (Priority and Focus Schools), if applicable
  - Periodic Certifications (Employees paid with Title I funds)
  - Employee Schedules (Employees paid with Title I funds)
  - Paraprofessional Assurances Form (Schools where paraprofessionals are paid with Title I funds)
- Additional requirements
  - Annual Title I Parent Meeting
  - Property Inventory

*Pulaski County Elementary and Pulaski County Middle are Title I School-wide Schools.*

## **Homeless, Migrant, Neglected and Delinquent Student Services**

- Purpose: To improve educational services for homeless and migrant students and children and youth in local and State institutions for neglected or delinquent children and youth so that such students have the opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic content standards and challenging State student academic achievement standards that all children in the State are expected to meet.
- Pulaski County School System is required to set aside a portion of Title I funds to serve homeless, migrant, neglected and delinquent youth.
- Definitions
  - Homeless - Individuals whose nighttime residence is NOT:
    - Fixed—stationary, permanent, and not subject to change.
    - Regular—used on a predictable, routine, or consistent basis.
    - Adequate—sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in the home.
  - Migrant - a migrant agricultural worker or has a parent, spouse, or guardian who is a migrant agricultural worker; and has moved from one school district to another within the preceding 36 months in order to obtain (or seek) temporary or seasonal employment in qualifying agricultural work.
  - Neglected - children and youth who are in need of care due to abandonment, neglect, or death of their parents or guardians.
  - Delinquent- children who have been adjudicated to be delinquent or in need of supervision.

## **Title II, Part A: Teacher and Leader Quality and Effectiveness**

- Purpose: For each school to have a teaching staff that is highly qualified and effective in helping all students, regardless of individual learning needs, achieve challenging state content and academic achievement standards.
- A secondary goal is for every student to have an equitable opportunity to receive quality instruction in terms of teacher quality, and teacher experience.

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- When choosing whether to use Title II funds, schools must ask, 'Will implementation of the strategy likely result in one or more of the following?'
  - A highly qualified, more effective teaching staff that is able to help *all* students meet high academic standards
  - A school administrative staff that is more qualified to lead their school's efforts to increase student academic achievement
  - More equitable opportunities for *every* student to be taught by highly qualified, highly effective teachers
- Professional Learning must be of high quality, sustained, intensive, and classroom-focused in order to have a positive and lasting impact on classroom instruction and the teacher's performance in the classroom.

### **Title III: English to Speakers of Other Languages**

- Purpose: To prepare students for success in school and in society through the development of cultural awareness and English language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- WIDA Standards and Can Do Descriptors govern the EL Program and assist teachers with understanding what can be expected of students based on their scores on the ACCESS test.
- Students qualify for services based on their performance on W-APT and/or ACCESS exams.
- Our EL students are served by content teachers.
- Pulaski County does not receive Title III Funding.

### **Title IV, Part A: Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE)**

- Purpose: To improved students' academic achievement by providing all students with access to a well-rounded education, improving school conditions for student learning, and improving the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students.

### **Title IV, Part B: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center**

- Purpose: To provide federal funds for communities to establish or expand activities in community learning centers that operate during out-of-school hours.

### **Title V: Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)**

- Purpose: To assist rural school districts in using federal resources more effectively to improve the quality of instruction and student academic achievement.
- Funds can be used to support any initiatives that are allowed under Title I, Title IIA or Title IV-A guidelines.

### **Supplement versus Supplant**

- Title funds must supplement already existing services. Supplanting occurs when:
  - A school uses Title funds to provide services that are required under federal, state, and local laws.
  - A school uses Title funds to provide services that were provided with non-Title funds in the previous year.

### **Additionally, expenditures must be:**

- Necessary to implement a strategy/activity included in an approved Schoolwide Plan.
- Reasonable in cost.
- Allocable to Title programs.
- Effective Use of Funds Involves the Following Processes:
  - Conduct an Annual Needs Assessment
  - Identify and Prioritize System Needs
  - Design Strategies to Address Needs
  - Allocate Funds to Implement Strategies (Budget)
  - Expend Funds as Budgeted
  - Evaluate Effectiveness of Strategies in Addressing Needs

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions related to Federal Programs, feel free to contact Staci Vickers, Assistant Superintendent of Pulaski County Schools. [svickers@pulaski.k12.ga.us](mailto:svickers@pulaski.k12.ga.us) – 478-783-7200