

Title I Law and Parent Involvement Requirements: An Overview

What is Title I?

- Title I is the largest federally funded education program (\$420 million for PA schools).
- Title I provides students extra help to achieve (become proficient) in reading and/or math.
- The goal is to help these students catch up and keep up.
- Title I is **not** a special education program.

What is ESEA (the Elementary and Secondary Education Act)?

- Education law (most recently called No Child Left Behind or NCLB).
- Goal is to improve student academic achievement and help increase the quality of teaching.
- One key component is parental involvement.
 - A. Provides provisions for parents to be involved in their child's education.
 - B. Provides policies and strategies to increase parent involvement at the State; at the District or Charter School; and at the School level.
 - C. Gives parents opportunities to partner with schools to ensure children receive the best education possible.

School District's Areas of Responsibility for Parent Involvement

- Development of District's Title I Plan
- District (and School-level) Parent Involvement Policy
- Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the District's Parent Involvement Policy
- Parent Involvement Set-Aside: Reservation of Funds
 - At least 1% of Title I allocation if over \$500,000
 - 95% of these funds must be distributed to buildings for parent involvement activities
- Parent Right to Know Requirements
 - Can request information on the qualifications of the teachers and paraprofessionals teaching their children.
 - When their child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who is not "highly qualified".

School Level Responsibilities Include:

- A. A School-level Parent Involvement Policy.
- B. A Parent/School Compact.
- C. Building capacity for strong parent involvement.

A. School Level Parent Involvement Policy

- Describes how the Title I school will:
 - Convene an annual meeting.
 - Offer a flexible number of meetings.
 - Involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way.
 - Provide Title I Parents:
 - Timely information on Title I.
 - School Performance Profiles.
 - Child’s individual student assessment results.
 - Description/explanation of curriculum.
 - Opportunities for regular meetings.
 - Timely responses to suggestions.

B. Title I Parent/School Compact

- An agreement for success: creating a “team” to support every student.
- Compacts are a “job description” that defines the “jobs” of the school, the parents (and often the student) in order to ensure that the student receives and achieves the best possible education.
 - School’s responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment.
 - Parent’s responsibility for supporting their children’s learning.

C. Building Capacity for Involvement

- Schools/School Districts **may--**
 - Involve parents in the training of school staff.
 - Provide child care, homework help, and/or meals to enable parents to participate in meetings and training sessions.
 - Train parents to train other parents.
 - Arrange meetings at a variety of times.
 - Arrange in-home conferences if parents can’t get to school.
 - Send materials home in a language parents can understand.

Title I State Parent Advisory Council (www.spac.k12.pa.us)

- Title I State Parent Conference
 - Held in the summer @ Seven Springs Resort
 - Will be July 13-15, 2015
 - Kids Camp available (ages 4-12); first come/first served
- Parent Resource Center (800) 942-8035 (see Title I Parent Resource Center Order Form)