



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

JUN 0 4 2015

Dear Chief State School Officer:

As we approach the end of another school year, I would like to take this opportunity to applaud the hard work that has taken place in States, local educational agencies (LEAs), and schools across the nation this year. You have each done a tremendous amount of work to address your State's most pressing education challenges and to enhance the support to educators and students.

Summer can be a stressful time as families seek to ensure that students stay actively engaged in learning outside of the traditional school year. With this in mind, I am writing to remind you that Federal funds may be used to support robust summer learning in a number of programs under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA). In addition, programs supported by other Federal legislation, including the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, also known as Title II of the Workforce Investment Act, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), may additionally support summer learning opportunities. I encourage you to continue working to ensure that LEAs and schools in your State understand that they may use remaining FY 2014 Federal funds under these programs for summer learning, and to work in a timely manner with LEAs and schools interested in updating their budgets and plans to use funds for this purpose.

Among the ESEA programs under which opportunities for summer learning are allowable, there are two in which summer learning is a particularly good fit. Title I, Part A (Title I) funds may be used to support a variety of extended learning time (ELT) opportunities for students consistent with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. These opportunities include summer school for eligible students. In particular, Title I funds may be used to support ELT opportunities for all students in Title I schools operating schoolwide programs and for those students identified as most at risk of failing to meet the State's academic achievement standards in Title I schools operating targeted assistance programs. An LEA generally may not use Title I funds to pay for ELT in Title I schools while also using non-Title I funds to support ELT in non-Title I schools. However, an LEA that wants to provide ELT programs *for only low-achieving students* in both its Title I and non-Title schools may be able to do so, consistent with 34 C.F.R. § 200.79. If an LEA or school wants to provide ELT services that include both academic and non-academic enrichment activities, it might consider using Title I, Part A funds, as appropriate, for the academic component and partnering with community organizations to provide the non-academic activities. Title I funds may also be used for summer activities designed to help prepare eligible students for the upcoming school year. For example, funds might be used for a summer academy to help eligible 8th-grade students transition to high school. Similarly, funds might be used for a summer program to prepare eligible students to succeed in higher-level courses.

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202

<http://www.ed.gov/>

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

Title IV, Part B of the ESEA authorizes the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) program, which supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic and enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The program helps students meet State and local academic achievement standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and math; offers students a broad array of academic enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs; and offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.

Under the 21st CCLC program, an eligible entity that presently has a subgrant from the SEA in its State may be eligible to receive additional funds under the program. As we approach the summer months, a State that has funds remaining from its grant competition(s) may use those remaining funds to expand or enhance current activities, or to establish programs in non-participating schools within an LEA that has a 21st CCLC subgrant. States should use program performance data and other evidence-based practices to develop summer learning programs that would yield measurable results.

If you have any additional questions regarding Title I or the 21st CCLC program, please do not hesitate to contact one of the program officers for your State in the Office of State Support or the Office of Academic Improvement. If you have questions regarding Perkins IV, please contact Edward Smith in the Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE) at: edward.smith@ed.gov. Questions regarding adult education programs under the Workforce Investment Act may be addressed to Christopher Coro in OCTAE at: christopher.coro@ed.gov. Questions regarding IDEA may be addressed to Matthew Schmeer in the Office of Special Education Programs at: matthew.schmeer@ed.gov.

Thank you again for your commitment to improving educational outcomes for all students. We look forward to our continued partnership in this critical work.

Sincerely,



Deborah S. Delisle
Assistant Secretary

cc: State Title I Directors
State 21st CCLC Directors
State Career and Technical Education Directors
State Special Education Directors