

Title II, Part A LEA Allocations under ESSA

- Q How is Title II, A funding determined?
- A. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) will use the following calculations for local education agency (LEA) Title II, Part A allocations beginning July 1, 2017:

20% of the funds designated for LEA allocations will be allocated based on each LEA's relative number of individuals ages 5 – 17 who reside in the area the LEA serves. The number of individuals ages 5 – 17 is based on the most recent Census data and are provided to the IDOE by the U.S. Census Bureau.

80% of the funds designated for LEA allocations will be allocated based on each LEA's relative number of individuals ages 5 – 17 who reside in the area the LEA serves and who are from families with incomes below the poverty line. Again, the number of individuals used in this calculation is based on the most recent Census data and are provided to the IDOE by the U.S. Census Bureau.

- Q. How is Title II, A funding determined for charter schools?
- A. Since charter schools do not have geographical boundaries, the U.S. Census Bureau cannot provide census information for them. To calculate census numbers for the charter schools, the IDOE will do the following:

of individuals ages 5 – 17:

IDOE will reduce the sending LEA's relative number of individuals ages 5 – 17 for each student who attends a charter school, and will increase the corresponding charter school's number by the same number.

of individuals ages 5 – 17 from families with incomes below the poverty line:

- 1) Calculate % of free and reduced students attending charter school from sending LEA by:

Free and reduced students enrolled in charter from sending LEA
of free and reduced students from sending LEA + Charter LEA

Example:

Charter A has 5 free and reduced students attending from LEA B. LEA B has 45 free and reduced students. The adjusted number of free and reduced students residing in LEA B is 50. Charter A's % of LEA B's free and reduced students = 5/50 or 10%.

- 2) Then, multiply % calculated above by the census poverty count of the sending LEA to arrive at the number of census poverty students for a charter from that sending LEA. This calculation will occur for each sending LEA, and will be totaled to arrive at the charter's overall census poverty count. The sending LEA's census poverty numbers will be reduced accordingly.

Example:

LEA B has a census poverty count of 100. Using the 10% calculated above, Charter A has a census poverty count from LEA B of 10 students (10% * 100 students). LEA B's census numbers are adjusted to 90.

Q. Does hold harmless apply to Title II, A funding?

A. No. Under ESSA, the hold harmless for LEAs was completely removed for Title II, A even though it exists for other programs such as Title I, A. Individual LEA allocations for Title II, A are dependent upon the true count of total children ages 5-17 and those below the poverty line. This may cause allocations for individual LEAs to fluctuate from year to year based upon their enrollment counts.

Q. What should I expect with my funding?

A. Under ESSA, the national funding levels for Title II, A were cut thirteen percent. This will have an impact upon Indiana's total allocation that is available for distribution to LEAs. Additionally, since the previous formula for Title II, A under No Child Left Behind did include a hold harmless based upon counts from 2001, the LEAs who have seen an enrollment shift in the past sixteen years may see further impacts to their allocations.

Q. Under ESSA, how will LEAs allocate funds for equitable services?

A. The allocations to provide equitable services for nonpublic schools will now be based upon the total allocation that an LEA receives. Under No Child Left Behind, the equitable services were solely based upon the amount that an LEA reserved for professional development; reservations for other uses, such as class-size reduction, implementation of evaluation systems, or recruitment incentives did not have an impact on the equitable services allocation. This is not the case with ESSA.

The LEA will determine a per pupil allocation based upon the total allocation divided by total count of participating children (LEA enrollment + participating nonpublic schools). The per pupil allocation will then be utilized to consult with participating nonpublic schools.

The allowable activities to support private school participants mirror the allowable activities for public school participants found at 2103(b)(3), such as professional development activities for teachers, principals, and other school leaders to address the specific needs of their students. However, equitable services under Title II, A may not be used for class-size reduction in a private school because contracts for private school teachers and staff would be inconsistent with requirements in ESEA section 8501(d) regarding public control of funds and the supervision and control of employees or contractors.¹

¹ <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essaguidance160477.pdf>