

Guidelines for Utilizing Title I Funds in a “Schoolwide Program” School in the 2018-19 SPSA

All Title I funded schools in SCUSD are ‘schoolwide program schools’. A school operating a schoolwide program does not need to identify particular students as eligible to participate and Title I funds may be used to implement reforms to upgrade the entire educational program of the school. Depending on the needs of each school, these reforms span a continuum from focusing on specific needs of historically underserved populations to implementing rigorous school intervention models designed to turn around low performing schools.

A school operating a schoolwide program may use Title I funds for any activity that supports the needs of students in the school as identified through the comprehensive needs assessment and articulated in the schoolwide plan. In designing and implementing the schoolwide plan, a school must implement strategies that:

- (1) Provide opportunities for all children to meet challenging State academic standards;
- (2) Use methods and instructional strategies that strengthen the academic program in the school, increase the amount and quality of learning time, and help provide an enriched and accelerated curriculum, which may include programs, activities, and courses necessary to provide a well-rounded education; and
- (3) Address the needs of all students, but particularly those at risk of not meeting challenging State academic standards.

Safeguarding the Interests of Historically Underserved Populations

Although a school may use Title I funds to serve all students in a schoolwide program, there are protections to ensure that low-achieving students and historically underserved populations of students do not get ignored.

- The very purpose of a schoolwide program is to upgrade the entire educational program of the school in order to raise the achievement of the lowest-achieving students. (ESEA section 1114).
- A comprehensive schoolwide plan must include strategies for —
 - ✓ Meeting the educational needs of all students, including each subgroup of students defined in section 1111(c) (2) (economically disadvantaged students; students from major racial and ethnic groups; children with disabilities; and English learners). (ESEA section 1114(b)(7)(A)(i)); and
 - ✓ Addressing the needs of all students but particularly the needs of students who are failing, or are at risk of failing, to meet the challenging State academic standards. (ESEA section 1114(b)(6),(7)(A)(iii))

From: *Supporting School Reform by Leveraging Federal Funds in a Schoolwide Program* – US Department of Education Non-Regulatory Guidance, September 2016

<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essaswpguidance9192016.pdf>