

DCSD Application for 2021-2022 ESSA Title Funds

Summary

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides supplemental funding for school districts across the country. Based upon preliminary allocations, Douglas County School District (DCSD) is estimated to receive total Title funding for Titles I, II, III & IV of \$2,375,238 for the 2021-2022 school year. The funds must be used in compliance with the specific requirements of each Title program.

Title IA – Supplemental funding focused on providing additional instructional time to address the needs of a Title I identified school’s lowest performing students and those students found to be at most risk for not meeting academic standards. Programming includes support for evidence-based programs and strategies, intensive instructional interventions (inclusive of additional FTE in the form of literacy and math interventionists at all Title I schools), behavioral supports which may be in the form of additional FTE at Title I schools; extended-time programs (after school tutoring and summer school programming), parent involvement, supplemental instructional supplies, and professional development for staff. Additionally, these funds support all services required by the McKinney-Vento Act for all district homeless students through the use of the Title I Homeless Set-Aside.

Title IIA – Supplemental funding intended to increase student academic achievement by improving educator quality. These funds are used for the direct support of professional development and coaching of teachers, paraeducators, principals and assistant principals, as well as any specialized staff positions (e.g. special education, ELL, GT, mental health, etc.). Funds provide for courses in a variety of areas as outlined in the Uses of Funds including paraeducator and supervisory training, literacy supports (e.g. Orton Gillingham, Wilson trainings including Foundations, GT trainings, EL trainings, and a variety of MTSS (Multi-tiered Systems of Support) courses.

Title IIIA – Supplemental funding designed to improve the education of English Language Learners by helping these students learn English and meet challenging academic content and student academic achievement standards. The supplemental programming supports are inclusive of ELD instructional strategies and resources, parent outreach, professional development for ESL and classroom teachers, and programs such as the Reading Together Tutor/Tutee program are included in the Use of Funds summary.

Title IVA – Supplemental funding designed to support activities that provide well-rounded educational opportunities; improve school conditions for student learning (safe and healthy students); and improve the use of educational technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students. The supplemental programming supports suicide prevention and intervention training, restorative practices, support for low income students on advanced placement exam fees, and other supports as outlined in the summary.

To access the funds, DCSD will submit a detailed application to the Colorado Department of Education by June 30, 2021 its application, DCSD will propose the projects briefly summarized on the following page. Opportunity for public comment on the application will be provided at the Board of Education meeting on April 20, 2021. For further information, please contact Laura Gorman (303-387-0093), Grant and ESSA Coordinator.

Proposed Uses of 2021-2022 ESSA Title Funds

Title I: Improving Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged (\$1,375,803)

- Intensive instruction at highest poverty schools (Hope Online Middle (82.23%); Hope Online High (76.34%); South Ridge Elementary (41.15%); Sedalia Elementary (47.76%))
 - Literacy, Math and Behavior Intervention for Hope Online Middle (schoolwide plan – ~7 FTE); Hope Online High (schoolwide plan – ~7 FTE); South Ridge Elementary (schoolwide plan – ~3 FTE); Sedalia Elementary (schoolwide plan - ~ 2 FTE)
 - Math and Literacy Instructional Coaching
 - Supplemental Educational Services (tutoring and summer school)
 - Supplemental instructional and professional development resources
 - Parent Involvement Activities inclusive of literacy and math support activities
- Homeless Student Liaisons (1.7 FTE) and Homeless Student Assistance Support (for all homeless students in all district and charter schools)
- Bookkeeping and coordination

Title II: Educator Quality (\$523,204)

- Professional Development for DCSD leaders and staff
- K-12 Coach/Director of Educator Effectiveness leading professional development for high quality implementation of teacher and principal evaluations
- Literacy Lead/Coach to assist in identification of literacy needs across the district and provide professional development and coordination of plans for implementation of a comprehensive literacy framework
- Staff development with an emphasis on paraeducator training; differentiation; paraeducator supervision; strategies for at-risk learners; co-teaching; Twice Exceptional (2E); MTSS supports, etc.
- Professional Development for literacy interventions inclusive of Orton Gillingham, Foundations, additional Wilson trainings, and other literacy trainings to support school staff districtwide
- PD/Coaching supports for Gifted & Talented teachers and staff supporting G/T students
- Charter and private school professional development support
- Bookkeeping and coordination

Title III: English Language Acquisition and Language Enhancement (\$246,139)

- District English Language Learner (ELL) Feeder Contacts
- EL Lead to support coaching of staff related to ELD programming and professional development of EL teachers districtwide
- Reading Together Tutor/Tutee Program
- Professional Development for the district's ESL teachers and classroom teachers (inclusive of Title I schools) focused on:
 - Intensive English Language Development strategies
 - Strategies focused on most critical missed targets and growth gaps
 - Parent outreach for ELL families (inclusive of Title I schools)
 - Parent Nights at schools & libraries, literacy nights, math nights
 - Interpreter help as needed and available

Title IV: Student Support and Academic Enrichment (\$230,092)

- Support of AP and other exam fees and resources for qualified low-income students
- Counselor Lead/Coach to support school counselors district-wide and lead professional development

- School Safety and Mental Health supports inclusive of professional development trainings internally and with outside experts
- Staff development with an emphasis on Starfish grief courses; Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue
- ASIST suicide prevention and intervention training of trainers
- Restorative Practices professional development to improve student and school learning climate
- Technological resources to support student learning in academic interventions and health curricula
- Charter and private school professional development support