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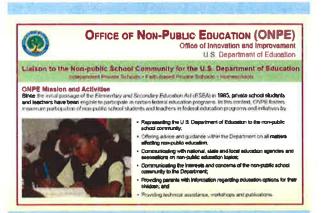
Today's Webinar The webinar will address the obligations of state and local educational agencies (SEAs/LEAs) in providing for the equitable participation of private school teachers in Title II, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Presenters Maureen Dowling, Director, ONPE Amy Huber, Education Program Specialist, ONPE Libby Witt, Team Leader, AITQP Carol Manitaras, Education Program Specialist, AITQP

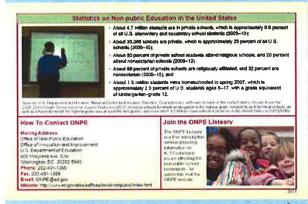
Agenda

- Overview of the Office of Non-Public Education (ONPE)
- · ESEA equitable services requirements
- ESEA Consultation requirements
- . Title II, Part A
- · Frequently Asked Questions
- · Questions from webinar participants



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The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

The ESEA requires LEAs to provide for the equitable participation of private school students, teachers and, in some cases, parents and other education personnel in some of the ESEA's major programs, including Title II, Part A, Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund.



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Equitable Service Requirements

LEAs are required to:

- Engage in timely and meaningful consultation with private school officials;
- Provide private school students and teachers with an opportunity to participate in activities equivalent to the opportunity provided to public school students and teachers;

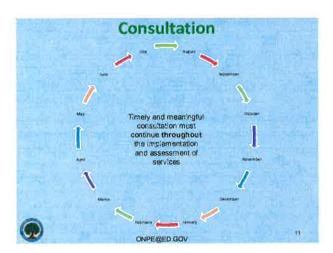


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Equitable Service Requirements LEAs are required to: Assess and address the needs of private school students and teachers; Provide benefits and services that meet the needs of private school students and teachers; and Spend an equal amount of funds per student to provide services.

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Consultation Timely and meaningful consultation between the LEA and private school officials during the design and development of the services is required on such issues as: How the children's needs will be identified; What services will be offered; How and where the services will be provided; CONTROLLED.GOV

Consultation (continued)

- · How the services will be assessed and how the results of the assessment will be used to improve those services;
- · What service delivery mechanisms will be used to provide equitable services;
- · Who will provide the services;
- · The amount of funds available to serve private school students;

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Consultation (continued)

- The size and scope of the services to be provided;
- · How and when the agency will make decisions about the delivery of services;
- · Consideration of the views of the private school officials regarding use of third-party providers; and
- · Where the LEA disagrees with the views of the private school officials on the provision of services through a contract, receiving from LEA the required written explanation of the reasons why the local education agency has chosen not to use a contractor.

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Consultation (continued)

- · Consultation must continue throughout the implementation and assessment of services; and
- Such consultation shall occur before the local education agency makes any decision that affects the opportunities to participate of eligible private school children, teachers, and other education personnel.



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- Services, materials and equipment must be secular, neutral, nonideological and supplemental in nature, not supplanting what the private school would otherwise provide absent the federal education services.
- The services must be allowable, reasonable and necessary in meeting the needs of private school students and teachers.

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Formal Complaint

A formal written complaint must include:

- A statement that the SEA, LEA, or other entity receiving federal financial assistance has violated a requirement of a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program requiring equitable participation;
- The facts on which the statement is based and the specific statutory or regulatory requirement allegedly violated; and
- · The signature of the complainant.



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Title II, Part A

- Provides funds for professional development for private school teachers and other educational personnel.
- LEAs may use Title II, Part A funds for a variety of teacher-quality activities that may or may not include professional development. However, services for private school teachers must be for professional development.

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Title II, Part A (continued)

- · Title II, Part A services are for improving knowledge in core academic subjects and effective instructional teaching strategies; and
- Training in:
 - o Effectively integrating technology;
 - o Teaching students with different needs, disabilities, and limited English proficiency;
 - Methods of improving student behavior, identifying early interventions, and involving parents;
 - o Leadership development and management; and
 - Use of data and assessments to improve instruction and student outcomes.



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Title II, Part A **Expenditures**

- . Where an LEA chooses to spend little or no Title II, Part A funds for professional development, the law establishes a minimum it must set aside for professional development for private school staff. The LEA must assume that the amount it spends that year on all professional development (for public and private school teachers) is at least what it spent for professional development in 2000-01 under two prior federal programs. Equitable service and equal expenditure rules apply based on this "imputed" level of LEA expenditures for professional development.
- The LEA remains in control of the federal funds and maintains ownership of materials, equipment and property purchased with such funds. (continued)



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	Title II, I	Part A	
Frequently	Asked	Question	FAQ

Q. Does the professional development program for private school teachers have to be the same as the professional development program for public school teachers?

A. No. LEAs must assess the needs of private school teachers in designing the professional development program for private school teachers. If the professional development needs of the private school teachers are different from those of public school teachers, the LEA, in consultation with private school representatives, should develop a separate program.



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Title II, Part A FAQ

Q. Is the SEA required to provide equitable services in State level Title II, Part A activities?

A. Yes. An SEA must provide equitable services to public and private school teachers and other educational personnel in professional development activities supported by funds reserved for State activities. In addition, the State and Higher Education funded grants to partnerships of institutes of higher education and high-need LEAs must ensure that services are offered on an equitable basis to public and private school teachers since the equitable services requirements apply to grants of "financial assistance" provided to an LEA "or another entity" [See Section 9501(b)(1) of the ESEA].



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Title II, Part A

Q. May Title II, Part A funds be used to pay for a private school teacher's attendance at a professional conference sponsored or conducted by a faith-based organization?

A. Yes. To the extent that the conference is part of a sustained and comprehensive secular professional development plan for the teacher, then Title II, Part A funds may be expended to pay for the portion of the costs of the conference that, as determined by the LEA, represent the secular professional development in which the teacher participated. In this case, the LEA would pay or reimburse the teacher for attendance at the conference.



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Q. May an LEA use Title II, Part A funds to write a reimbursement check to a private school?

A. No. LEAs must administer and retain control over the funds and, therefore, may not provide program funds directly to private schools. An LEA may reimburse an individual private school teacher for professional development that the LEA has pre-approved to be paid for with Title II, Part A funds. At all times, the Federal funds must remain in the control of the LEA. Thus, the LEA expends the funds on behalf of the private school students and teachers.



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Title II, Part A FAQ

Q. May private schools within the same district request that the LEA pool Title II, Part A funds?

A. Yes. Pooling (combining) Title II, Part A funds generated by private school students from a number of private schools located in the same LEA is allowable. If a group of private schools in an LEA requests that the LEA pool the Title II, Part A funds their students have generated, the LEA may pool these funds. Then, based on the professional development needs assessment of the teachers in these schools, the LEA could provide services to all or most of the teachers. However, Title II, Part A funds may not be pooled across LEAs. This is because the amount of funds generated for services to private school teachers in an LEA may only be expended for services for those private school teachers in that LEA.



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Title II, Part A FAQ

Q. Who serves as the private school official representing the private school in the consultation process?

A. Most often, the private school principal serves as the official representative of the students and teachers in the school. However, a principal may designate another individual to be her/his representative in the consultation process. A group of private school official smay also be represented by one private school official or a central office administrator. In this case, that individual should inform in writing the LEA superintendent that she/he will serve as the designated representative for such schools and provide a list of the private schools that she/he represents.



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Title II, Part A FAQ

Q. May Title II, Part A funds be used to pay for professional development for private school principals and superintendents?

A. Yes. An LEA may use Title II, Part A funds to pay for professional development for private school principals and superintendents. Section 2123(a)(6) specifically permits an LEA to use Title II, Part'A funds to carry out "professional development activities designed to improve the quality of principals and superintendents, including the development and support of academies to help talented aspiring or current principals and superintendents become outstanding managers and educational leaders."



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Title II, Part A Resources

- U.S. Department of Education Improving Teacher Quality State Grants, ESEA Title II, Part A, Non-Regulatory Guldance, Revised October 5, 2006 (see section G, pages 47-55).
- U.S. Department of Education Title IX Guidance on Equitable Services to Eligible Private School Students and Teachers.
- ONPE listserv for announcements about upcoming webinars on ESEA equitable services.



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