Grant Application Guidance – Local School Information Tab

The following guidance will assist you in completing the Local School Information tab within the FY 2026 Title I, Part A, Section 1003 School Improvement Grant application.

- **The Local School Information tab provides an opportunity for Local Education Agencies to indicate how this funding will be spent to support goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) and outlined in the current School Improvement Plan. Narrative descriptions must align to and supplement information about funding requests submitted in the Budget Detail page.**

EXAMPLE 1

Grant funding will be budgeted for increased professional development, staffing, and instructional resources to help the school reach its goals.

The SMART goals are as follows:

- By spring of 2026, 75% of students in Grades 2-5 will score at or above the 60th percentile as measured by STAR reading scores.
- By spring of 2026, 75% of students in Grades 2-5 will score at or above the 60th percentile as measured by STAR math scores.

EXAMPLE 2

Grant funds will be used to pay staff stipends to engage in vertical and horizontal articulation of the Tier 1 English language arts and math core curriculum.

The SMART goals are as follows:

- By spring 2026, the percentage of students scoring at or above grade level proficiency on the iReady reading assessment will increase by 15%.
- By spring 2026, the percentage of students scoring at or above grade level proficiency on the iReady math assessment will increase by 15%.

EXAMPLE 3

Grant funding will be used to provide leadership coaching twice monthly by an approved learning partner. Funding also will be used to hire instructional coaches to improve evidence-based teaching practices.

The SMART goals are as follows:

- By spring 2026, we will increase our graduation rate by 3% based on the spring 2026 four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.
- By the end of the 2025-26 school year, 80% of first-time ninth grade students will have earned five or more credits without failing more than 0.5 credits in the core subjects.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION