



Fiscal Year 2026 Consortium Webinar

Presented by:

Trevor Cottle

Seng Naolhu

Lauren Ligammari

Agenda

- Why should a district form a consortium?
- What is the purpose of a consortium?
- What grants does a consortium apply to?
- How do you form a consortium?
- What are the roles/responsibilities of a consortium?
 - Administrative vs. Member

Why should a district form a consortium?

Why should a district form a consortium?

SEC. 4105 ALLOCATIONS TO LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES

MINIMUM LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY ALLOCATION.— No allocation to a Local Education Agency (LEA) under this subsection may be made in an amount that is less than \$10,000, subject to subsection (b).

SEC. 4106. LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY APPLICATIONS

CONSORTIUM.—If a Local Education Agency desires to carry out the activities described in this subpart in consortium with one or more surrounding Local Education Agencies as described in Section 4105(a)(3), such Local Education Agencies shall submit a single application as required under subsection (a).

Why should a district form a consortium?

- An LEA may join with other LEAs to form a consortium of LEAs to receive Title III formula funds as specified in the ESEA.
- Under this arrangement, one of the LEAs must serve as the fiscal agent for the consortium and is legally responsible to the Illinois State Board of Education for the grant.
- The option of joining a consortium may be especially relevant to a small LEA that does not, on its own, have a sufficient number of English learners (ELs) to meet the requirement in ESEA Section 3114(b) that a Title III subgrant be at least \$10,000.

What is the purpose of a consortium?

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- The LEA fiscal agent provides consortium-wide services, such as professional development and supplemental instructional materials, directly to all LEAs in the consortium.
- The LEA fiscal agent enters into a contract with another entity to provide services to all of the member LEAs.
- The LEA fiscal agent reimburses a portion of the consortium's allocation to each member LEA based on the number of ELs in each LEA and expenditures toward services.

What grants does a consortium apply to?

Title III - Language Instructional Education Program

- Member and/or administrative districts that are below the \$10,000 threshold must form a consortium to access Title III – Language Instructional Education Program (LIEP) funding.

When and how do you form a consortium?

When and how do you form a consortium?

Before/during the ISBE review of the Intent to Apply:

- If the EL-Title III Intent to Apply (ITA) is reviewed and returned with a comment determining that the LEA missed the \$10,000 threshold:
- The district may:
 - Seek other LEAs that have less than the threshold and want to access funding, and/or
 - Seek other LEAs that met the threshold and see if they are willing to assist them in accessing funding.
- **NEW!** LEAs wanting to form a consortium may access the spreadsheet of known LEAs that are willing to form one.
 - This must be checked in the ITA to receive the list via email.
- The LEA and the member and/or administrative districts' respective superintendents will sign an agreement.
- The ITA will have a window on the Applicant Information page to upload the Consortium Agreement form.
- Both administrative and member districts must consult with private schools within their boundaries.

What are the roles/responsibilities of a consortium?

Administrative vs. Member

Consortium Agreement



555 West Monroe Street, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60661

DISTRICT CONSORTIUM MEMBER
AGREEMENT IN THE
20____-20____ SCHOOL YEAR
(Based on data gathered in FY 20____)

MULTILINGUAL/LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

☐ We certify that we have read, understand and agree to the requirements for a consortium.

Administrative District: _____
(District Name)

(Administrator Signature) (Date)

Member District: _____
(District Name)

(Administrator Signature) (Date)

Member District: _____
(District Name)

(Administrator Signature) (Date)

Member District: _____
(District Name)

(Administrator Signature) (Date)

Member District: _____
(District Name)

(Administrator Signature) (Date)



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DISTRICT CONSORTIUM MEMBER
AGREEMENT IN THE
20____-20____ SCHOOL YEAR
(Based on data gathered in FY 20____)

MULTILINGUAL/LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Title III: Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP)

Complete this form only if the Title III LIEP grant application will be submitted under consortium agreement. We, the undersigned districts below, agree to be a part of a district consortium with:

Administrative and Fiscal Entity	
DISTRICT NAME AND NUMBER	DATE
SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME	Signature of SUPERINTENDENT

for the provisions of services to English learners (ELs) under English Learner and Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). We, the cooperative members, have agreed to have our LIEP funds transferred to the Administrative and Fiscal Entity for the purpose of providing EL related services to our EL students.

Consortium Members	
DISTRICT NAME AND NUMBER	DATE
SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME	Signature of SUPERINTENDENT

DISTRICT NAME AND NUMBER	DATE
SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME	Signature of SUPERINTENDENT

DISTRICT NAME AND NUMBER	DATE
SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME	Signature of SUPERINTENDENT

DISTRICT NAME AND NUMBER	DATE
SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME	Signature of SUPERINTENDENT

This form must be uploaded in the Intent to Apply application in IWAS prior to submission by both Administrative and Member districts.



Administrative District Roles and Responsibilities

Consortium Agreement FY 2026

Administrative District Role and Responsibilities

- Submit a complete EL-Title III Intent to Apply Application in IWAS.
 - Indicate on the ITA that the district will apply as an administrative district of the consortium and list the district names of the consortium members.
 - A completed Consortium Agreement must be uploaded into the ITA.
 - Include signatures and dates from the administrative districts and all members.

Administrative District Role and Responsibilities

- Submit a complete and timely Title III LIEP application.
 - Applications for administrative and member districts are related.
 - All member districts funding is tied to the administrative district's application.
 - An administrative district cannot release funds to a member district until both of their applications are approved.
- The administrative district must list all joint activities of the consortium on the budget detail page in the LIEP.
 - Any activity that the consortium will host that will benefit all members.
 - For example, a professional development activity that is open to all EL teachers in the consortium.

Administrative District Role and Responsibilities

- On the Budget Detail page, list the funds allocated to the consortium districts.
 - Function 4000/Object 600
- Verify that the funds requested from the member district match the member district's approved budget detail.
- Complete quarterly expenditure reports for the consortium.
 - Include funds reimbursed to the consortium members.
 - This is done on behalf of the member district(s) to report the transfer of funds.
- Submit the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act Grant Periodic Report (GPR).
 - The GPR must include the activity (function 4000/object 600) listed in the expenditure reports that were reimbursed to the consortium members.
 - This is done on behalf of the member district(s) to report the transfer of funds.

Member District Roles and Responsibilities

Member District Role and Responsibilities

- Submit a complete EL-Title III Intent to Apply Application in IWAS.
 - Indicate on the ITA that the district will apply as a member district of the consortium and list the district name of the administrative district.
 - A completed Consortium Agreement must be uploaded into the ITA.
 - Include signatures and dates from the administrative districts and all members.

Member District Role and Responsibilities

- Submit a complete and timely Title III LIEP application.
 - Applications for administrative and member districts are related.
 - All member districts funding is tied to the administrative district's application.
 - An administrative district cannot release funds to a member district until both of their applications are approved.
 - On the LIEP Budget Page, check that you will participate as a member in a consortium.
 - List the activities for use of funds that were allotted to your district.

Member District Role and Responsibilities

- The member district will:
 - Share a copy of the "**Cooperative Member Budget**" from the LIEP application with the administrative district.
 - Share subsequent amendments, as applicable.
 - Submit your incurred expenses, in line with your approved Cooperative Member Budget, to the administrative district.
- Member districts are not responsible for:
 - Reporting the expenses on the quarterly expenditure report for the member district(s).
 - Completing the GPR for the member district(s).
 - If IWAS is requiring your district to complete any of these above-mentioned items, please contact your [assigned principal consultant for technical assistance](#).



Questions?

Thank you