

TITLE IV—21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS

PART A—STUDENT SUPPORT AND ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT GRANTS

Sec. 4101. Purpose.

- Established a new subpart to improve students' academic achievement by increasing the capacity of States, school districts, schools, and local communities to (1) provide all students with access to a well-rounded education; (2) improve school conditions for student learning; and (3) improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy (p. 450).
- The State and school districts will receive an amount that bears the same relationship to the amount they receive under subpart 2 of part A of Title I for the preceding fiscal year (p. 454, 465).
- The State may reserve 1 percent for administrative services to carry out State activities (p. 458).
- Requires consultation between parents, teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, students, community-based organizations, and local government representatives as well as a comprehensive needs assessment (pp. 468-469).
- Supplies a list of specific allowable uses of funds under sections 4107. Activities to Support Well Rounded Educational Opportunities (p. 473), Section 4108. Activities to Support Safe and Healthy Students (p. 477), and Section 4109. Activities to Support the Effective Use of Technology (p. 485).

Sec. 4112. Authorization of Appropriations.

- \$1,650,000,000 for fiscal year 2017, and \$1,600,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2020.

PART B—21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS (21ST CCLC)

Sec. 4201. General Purpose.

- Expanding the scope of activities under the second goal for the program. This includes ensuring students get exposure to College and Career Readiness (CCR) activities.
- Identify not-for-profits and ensure that they have a history of success or are willing to enter into an agreement for mentoring and guidance support services. (p. 492).

Sec. 4202. Allotment to States.

- States will be obligated to award 93 percent of the federal allotment with the following exclusions (pp. 495-497):
 - 2 percent for state administration
 - 5 percent for state activities
- Additional allowed state activities include the following:
 - Ensuring grant application aligns to state standards

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- Ensuring eligible entities identify partners with external organizations
- Working with schools, families, business and local community stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of programs
- Coordinating funds
- Providing a list of pre-screened external organizations

The additional state activities that include ensuring eligible entities identify partners with external organizations; working with schools, families, business, and local community stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of programs; and providing a list of pre-screened external organizations.

Sec. 4203. State Application.

- Serving students in schools that are implementing comprehensive support and improvement activities or targeted support and improvement activities under section 1111(d), serving students in other schools determined by the LEA to be in need of intervention and support, and serving the families of such students (p. 498).
- Including performance measures that can make direct links to student achievement over time in the state application (p. 502).

Sec. 4204. Local Competitive Grants.

- Applicants must demonstrate coordination of funds and active coordination with schools (p. 507).
- Using the performance results measures to inform the renewal of a subgrant (p. 514).

Sec. 4205. Local Activities.

- Placing greater emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and career and technical education (CTE) as allowable activities (p. 515).

PART C—EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY THROUGH QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS

Sec. 4301. Charter Schools Grants (p. 518).

- Continuation (with changes) of existing program; existing grantees will continue to receive funding through the term of their grant.
- Authorized amounts: \$270 million in FY17 and FY18, \$300 million in FY19 and FY20
- 12.5 percent for charter schools to use innovative methods for the acquisition or construction of facilities or loans/bonds for financing
- 22.5 percent for national activities
 - Not more than 80 percent of this funding is for Charter Management Organizations (CMOs) to open, replicate, or expand high-quality charter schools; priority is given to CMOs serving diverse student bodies and that have had demonstrated success with schools identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement
 - 9 percent of national activities funds are for charter applicants in states that did not receive a state grant (“non-SEA” grants)

Sec. 4303. Grants to Support High-Quality Charter Schools. (p. 522)

- Remainder of funds will be distributed via grants to state entities, which may include SEAs, a governor, a state charter school board, or a charter support organization (p. 523).
 - Up to 5 years, no fewer than 3 grants per year, with a review of expenditures after the 2nd year to determine if the grant should continue
 - Entities must show academic success and quality financial models as well as not be a party to a high proportion of closures
 - Priority is given to organizations serving 60 percent or more children living in poverty in the aggregate (page 418)
 - Charters may use a weighted lottery to benefit disadvantaged students if otherwise permitted and if it does not segregate a subset of students
 - Funds may be used for opening new charters or expanding/replicating existing quality programs:
 - Priority is given to States that have high-quality plans to monitor applicants and provide technical assistance to support quality authorizing, States that allow entities besides LEAs to be authorizers, States that support charter schools serving at-risk students, States that use best practices found in charters to improve struggling non-charter schools and LEAs, and States that ensure that all chartering agencies implement best practices for charter authorizing (p. 569)
- Local uses of funds (p. 546)
 - Preparing teachers, leaders, instructional support
 - Acquiring supplies, training and equipment
 - Necessary renovations
 - Startup transportation costs
 - Community engagement
 - Other appropriate non-sustained costs if not met from other sources

Sec. 4304. Facilities Financing Assistance (p. 549).

- Competitive grant to help charter schools address the cost of acquiring, constructing, and renovating facilities by enhancing the availability of loans or bond financing.
- The Secretary of Education must reserve at least 50 percent of available facilities funding for at least 3 competitive grants to entities with innovative methods of addressing charter school facilities costs.
- If grantees have not made significant progress after 2 years, the Secretary of Education can seek recovery of all or a portion of funds (except funds that are being “properly used”)
- Per-Pupil Facilities Aid program (p. 559) provides for the use of the remaining 50 percent to supply 5-year grants with an increasing non-federal match (to 80 percent in 5th year of grant). Applications must address proposed assistance, the extent of the charter school’s involvement in project development, and the level of expertise in capital market financing/education

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Sec. 4305. National Activities (p. 562).

- No less than 80 percent of funds to charter management organizations
- No more than 9 percent of funds directly to applicants who did not receive State award
- Remainder for technical assistance and dissemination of best practices
- Priority to entities with success in increasing achievement for all students/subgroups, whether entity has managed significant proportion of charters that have been closed

PART D—MAGNET SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE (p. 574).

- Makes technical changes to program authorizing the Secretary of Education to award grants to school districts for magnet schools that are (1) part of an approved desegregation plan; and, (2) designed to bring students from different social, economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds together.

PART E—FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

- Assurance of regular two-way meaningful communication between families and school staff (pp. 499–500). This is aligned to the ISBE Family Engagement Framework Principle 3—Enhance Communication.
- Additional opportunities for states to apply for federal awards that promote and build capacity and evaluate family engagement under Title IV (p. 185).

PART F—NATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

Sec. 4611. Grants for Education Innovation and Research.

- Innovative assessment and accountability demonstration authority (p. 592).

Sec. 4624. Promise Neighborhoods (p. 606).

- Authorizes the Secretary of Education to award competitive grants, at least 15 percent of which funds to rural areas
- No fewer than 3 grants per year
- Grantees must conduct a needs analysis and give priority to “evidence-based activities”
- Grantees must use at least 50 percent of funds in first year for support and implementation (25 percent in second year)
- Grantees cannot use funds for early childhood summative assessments, or evaluations (other than for purposes of improving instruction)

Sec. 4625. Full-Service Community Schools (p. 616).

- Authorizes the Secretary of Education to award competitive grants, no fewer than 10 grants per year (Sec. 4625) and at least 15 percent to rural areas
- Non-federal match (Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) can use other federal funds)
- Entities must serve at least 2 schools
- Minimum grant is \$75,000

Sec. 4631. National Activities for School Safety (p. 622).

- Authorizes the Secretary of Education to award funds for the Project School Emergency Response to Violence program (Project SERV)
- Allowance to fund other activities to improve student safety directly, through grants, through contract, or cooperative agreements with public/private entities, individuals, or other Federal agencies

Sec. 4642. Assistance for the Arts (p. 626).

- From available funds, the Secretary of Education shall award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to promote arts education for students, including disadvantaged students and students with disabilities
- Priority to national nonprofit organizations

Sec. 4643. Ready to Learn Programming (629).

- Secretary of Education shall make awards to eligible entities to develop, produce, and distribute educational video programming, materials, and digital content for preschool and elementary school children

Sec. 4644. High-Ability Learners and Learning (p. 636).

- Javits Gifted and Talented program, which has been operating since 1988, was retained and reauthorized in ESSA.
- The program focuses grant funds on identifying and serving students who are traditionally underrepresented in gifted and talented programs, particularly minority, economically disadvantaged, English language learners, and children with disabilities in order to help reduce gaps in achievement and to encourage the establishment of equal educational opportunities for all students.
- In addition, the Javits program funds a national research center on gifted education, and when funding permits, it also funds grants to states to improve the ability of elementary and secondary schools to meet the special educational needs of gifted and talented students.