



# TENNESSEE

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

**FEDERAL GRANTS  
OVERVIEW**

**JULY 26, 2024**

# OVERVIEW

- Types of Federal Grants
  - Entitlement
  - Discretionary
- Major Federal Programs Overview
  - Title Programs
  - IDEA Part B
  - Schoolwide Pool
- Other Grants



# TYPES OF FEDERAL GRANTS

## Entitlement Grants

- Funded based a formula, rooted in legislation or regulation
- Annual, recurring awards
- Provided to all eligible schools in the district
- ESSA: Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV
- IDEA
- Entitlement grants applications processed via the Consolidated Funding Application annually

## Discretionary Grants

- Awarded to eligible applicants on a competitive basis
- Tend to be "one offs"
- Often requires the Commission to facilitate school(s) application at the district level



# ESSA GRANTS

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
  - Originally ESEA (1965)
- Applicable ESSA Titles:
  - Title I - Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Education Agencies
  - Title II - Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High-Quality Teachers, Principals, or Other School Leaders
  - Title III - Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
  - Title IV - 21st Century Schools
  - Title IX - Education for the Homeless and Other Laws (No grant funds)



# TITLE I-A OVERVIEW

- **Title I-A Purpose:** Provide supplementary opportunities for children in high-poverty areas
- Programmatic Features
  - Parent and family engagement
  - Foster care, homelessness, & migrant students
  - Title I program requirements:
    - LEA and School Plans (with parent participation)
    - LEA/School Family & Community Engagement plans
    - 20-Day Parent Letters
    - Annual Title I Meetings
    - Parent Compact
    - Parent communications/translation



# TITLE I-A OVERVIEW

- Funding to the Commission is based on a derived poverty formula since we are not a geographic LEA
  - Funding may vary year over year based on changes to our district demographics
- Schools must have a poverty rate of at least 40% to be eligible for Title I designation
- Allocated to schools based on multiple poverty measures
  - Direct certification: SNAP/TANF/Foster/Migrant Homeless
  - Medicaid Free
- Allocations:
  - FY24: \$2,703,966
  - FY25: \$2,666,531



# TITLE II OVERVIEW

- **Title II Purpose:** To improve teacher and leader quality with a focus on preparing, training, and recruiting high-quality teachers and principals.
- Programmatic Features:
  - Flexibility to design and implement a wide variety of activities that can help meet the individual needs of educators based on educator practice and student development.
- Allocations:
  - FY24: \$167,819
  - FY25: \$277,989



# TITLE III

- **Title III Purpose:** To improve the education of English learners (ELs) and immigrant youth
- Programmatic features:
  - Comply with required reporting and service responsibilities to ELs
  - Provide effective language instruction educational programs (LIEPs)
  - Provide effective professional development
  - Provide and implement other effective activities and strategies, including parent, family, and community engagement activities
  - Most EL requirements come from the state
- Allocations:
  - FY24: \$109,963
  - FY25: \$155,771





# TITLE IV OVERVIEW

- **Title IV Purpose:** Improve student achievement through: (1) a well-rounded education; (2) safe and healthy students; and (3) effective use of technology.
- Programmatic Features:
  - LEA must prioritize schools with "greatest need"
  - Specific spending requirements across 3 focus areas
- Allocations:
  - FY24: \$195,627
  - FY25: \$181,067



# SCHOOL-WIDE POOL

- ESSA allows the consolidation of funds into a Schoolwide Pool for Title I-A schools
- Allows schools to one "pot" of funds for any eligible Title I, II, III, and/or IV expenses
- Allows for maximum flexibility on use of funds
- Non-Title I schools receive individual grants for which they are eligible



# IDEA OVERVIEW

- **IDEA Purpose:** Pay for the excess cost of providing a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to children ages 3 to 21 who have been identified with disabilities
- Programmatic Features:
  - FAPE and least restrictive environment (LRE)
  - Child Find
  - Procedural safeguards
  - Early Intervention
  - Monitoring Individualized Education Programs (IEP)



# IDEA OVERVIEW

- District allocations based on prior year enrollment of students with disabilities
- Allocations to schools based on weighted methodology reflective of student service needs
  - Mirrors the Unique Learning Needs (ULN) definitions and weights under TISA
- IDEA Allocations:
  - FY24: \$927,054
  - FY25: \$927,054
- IDEA Preschool Allocations:
  - FY24: \$16,777
  - FY25: \$16,777



# OTHER GRANTS

- **Voluntary Pre-K:** Competitive grant to provide free pre-K to low-income families
  - FY24: \$94,726 (1 classroom)
  - FY25: \$277,684 (3 classrooms)
- **Extended Learning:** Competitive grants providing after-school enrichment programs
  - 21st Century (Bluff City: 3-year cycle; \$70,000 per year)
  - LEAPs (Libertas: 3-year cycle; \$75,000 per year)
- **Turnaround Action Grant (TAG) & State School Improvement Grant (SSIG):** Entitlement grant awards to schools with a school turnaround designation
  - FY24 TAG: \$443,932 (Promise, Lester Prep, LEAD)
  - FY24 SSIG: \$2,066,928 (Promise, Lester Prep, LEAD)
  - FY25 TAG: Allocation TBA (Cornerstone Prep-Lester)
  - FY25 SSIG: Allocation TBA (Cornerstone Prep-Lester)





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