Title I, Part D: Frequently Asked Questions

What is Title I, Part D?

Title I, Part D is a subpart of Title I of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the most recent authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Also referred to as Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent or At-Risk, Title I, Part D provides financial assistance to two kinds of educational programs for youth:

- 1. State-operated institutions (Subpart 1), including:
 - o <u>Department of Youth Services (DYS)</u>
 - o Department of Corrections (DOC), and
 - o <u>County Houses of Corrections/Sheriff's offices</u>
- 2. District-affiliated community residential programs (Subpart 2). Examples of facilities include:
 - o Germaine Lawrence School in Arlington
 - o Reed Academy in Framingham, and
 - o 49 other facilities in 34 school districts

What are the goals of Title I, Part D?

The goals of Title I, Part D, are to: (1) improve educational services for children in state- and locally-operated facilities so they can meet challenging State academic standards; (2) provide them with services to successfully transition from these facilities to school or employment; and (3) prevent youth who are at-risk from dropping out of school, and to provide dropouts and children and youth returning from correctional facilities with the appropriate supports to ensure their continued education.

What are the characteristics of students in facilities?

Subpart 1: Students in facilities that fall under Subpart 1 of Title I, Part D are individuals that are being held in confinement for crimes or because they are awaiting trial. Sentences in county houses of corrections are usually no more than two and a half years, although there are repeat offenders. Sentences in prisons that are part of the Department of Corrections (DOC) can be much longer. The Department of Youth Services (DYS), the state youth detention facility, detains juveniles with sentences that vary and are usually short term unless a juvenile continues a sentence at an adult facility at the age of 18.

Subpart 2: Students served under Title I, Part D Subpart 2 are children or youth residing in a facility, often a special education facility, due to neglect or delinquency. Common referrals are from the Department of Children and Families (DCF) or other agencies. The reasons for referral may include truancy, school failure, attention and learning problems, or significant behavioral and emotional issues within the school setting.

How many facilities are there?

Subpart 1: There are 15 state-operated facilities, including DYS, DOC, and houses of correction that incarcerate 1,679 individuals for various periods of time depending on the seriousness of a crime. Funding to these facilities totals \$2.5 million.

Subpart 2: There are 51 facilities within the boundaries of 34 school districts serving 1,153 students. Funding to these facilities total \$750,000 and ranges from approximately \$5,000 to \$140,000.

How are funds allocated?

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary (ESE) makes subgrants to Title I, Part D Subpart 1 and Subpart 2 applicants based on enrollment information provided to the Department based on an annual count of students for each program. Students eligible under Subpart 1 must be those students twenty years of age or under, counted in the month of February, who are enrolled in a program of instruction at the facility. Students eligible under Subpart 2 are youth from ages 13-17 who reside at a neglected or delinquent facility, counted during a 30 day period of which one day must be in October.

Grant funds for Subpart 1 applicants go directly to the facility while funds for Subpart 2 residential facilities appear in the regular Title I grant in the district where the facility resides and is then passed on to the facility through a formal agreement between the district and the facility. Although the school district should maintain communication with and provide technical assistance to the residential facility within its school boundaries, the district only acts as an intermediary for the Title I funds that are managed by the facility itself.

What is the responsibility and relationship of a Title I district to a facility?

Districts with residential facilities are expected to receive a copy of the facility Title I, Part D budget workbook and narrative, review it and provide technical assistance and support, maintain occasional contact with the facility, and keep a copy of the budget and narrative and other documents, such as purchase vouchers or payroll information, in transferring funds to the facility. Since school districts must act as the intermediary for funds designated for the residential facility, the United States Department of Education (USED) requires a signed formal agreement, or contract, to exist between the school district and residential facility receiving Title I, Part D funds.

How are funds used?

Funds are used for supplemental instruction in core subject areas, such as reading and mathematics, as well as tutoring, counseling, and transition services. Common uses of funds include salaries, instructional and non-instructional supplies, professional development, and counseling. In correctional facilities, increasing amounts of Title I funds are being used to supplement state General Educational Development (GED) efforts, such as the purchase of instructional technology or equipment that have become a greater component of GED preparation and testing in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Where can I get technical assistance regarding this program?

ESE's School Improvement Grant Programs unit oversees Massachusetts' Title I, Part D program. For additional information, contact Russ Fleming at 781-338-6259 or rfleming@doe.mass.edu.

In addition, an excellent source of information and of research related this program is the <u>Neglected and Delinquent Technical Assistance Center (NDTAC)</u>, the technical assistance center contracted by USED.