



JOHN ENGLER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr.

DATE: August 28, 2002

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for the Title III Grant Funds

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA) includes a new grant under Title III for language instruction for limited English proficient (LEP) students and services for immigrant students. The estimated Title III allocation for Michigan is \$4,800,000. The Title III state allocations will be adjusted in September 2002 using 2000 census data. The final allocation will be awarded in October 2002.

The requirements for awarding subgrants to local districts are specified in Section 3114 of Title III. The subgrants fall into two categories: English language instruction programs for LEP students and programs for immigrant students. States may determine what proportion of the grant funds to set aside for immigrant students. The immigrant student set aside may not exceed 15% of the state's Title III allocation. Because Michigan has a large immigrant population, it is recommended that 15% of the Title III allocation be set aside for funding services for immigrant students.

School districts and public school academies may receive a subgrant in each category based on the following criteria:

English Language Instruction portion

It is recommended that funding for English language programs be distributed on a per pupil basis using the LEP counts that school districts and public school academies submit to the Department. Title III prohibits states from awarding subgrants of less than \$10,000. School districts and public school academies may form consortia in order to qualify for funding.

Immigrant Student portion

Title III requires that Immigrant student funds be distributed only to school districts and public school academies that experience a significant increase in the immigrant student population as compared to the two preceding school years. It is recommended that a significant increase be defined as an increase in immigrant student population for each of the two preceding years and that the percentage

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increase for at least one of those years is greater than the average percentage increase for the state. It is further recommended that a minimum grant level be established of \$10,000 and that a minimum student count be established of 20 immigrant students.

The three criteria being recommended to the State Board for approval are:

- Eighty-five percent (85%) of the Title III funds will be designated for English language instruction for LEP students and 15% for services for immigrant students.
- Subgrants for English language instruction for LEP students will be distributed on a per pupil basis.
- Grants for services for immigrant students will be awarded on a per pupil basis to school districts and public school academies with at least 20 immigrant students and an increase in the immigrant student population for each of the two preceding years with the percentage increase for at least one of those years being greater than the average percentage increase for the state. A minimum grant award will be established at \$10,000.

These criteria will meet all of the specified requirements of Title III for the awarding of subgrants. Upon criteria approval, a memorandum will be sent to all school districts and public school academies notifying them of the eligibility criteria and the pupil count requirements.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the Title III grant funds as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 28, 2002.

MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for Title III Grant Funds

The State Board of Education has adopted as its Strategic Goal "Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students, with primary emphasis on chronically underperforming schools." In addition, the State Board has adopted the following five Strategic Initiatives to implement the goal:

- Ensuring Excellent Educators
- Elevating Educational Leadership
- Embracing the Information Age
- Ensuring Early Childhood Literacy
- Integrating Communities and Schools

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will include priority consideration of the Strategic Goal and the Strategic Initiatives.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT

☐ Competitive ☒ Formula ☒ New ☐ Continuation *(check all that apply)*

Title III is a new program under the No Child Left Behind Act. There have been no previous grant criteria for this program.

LEGISLATION

Public Law 107-110 SEC. 3114

(a) IN GENERAL- After making the reservation required under subsection (d)(1), each State educational agency receiving a grant under section 3111(c)(3) shall award subgrants for a fiscal year by allocating to each eligible entity in the State having a plan approved under section 3116 an amount that bears the same relationship to the amount received under the grant and remaining after making such reservation as the population of limited English proficient children in schools served by the eligible entity bears to the population of limited English proficient children in schools served by all eligible entities in the State.

(b) LIMITATION- A State educational agency shall not award a subgrant from an allocation made under subsection (a) if the amount of such subgrant would be less than \$10,000.

(c) REALLOCATION- Whenever a State educational agency determines that an amount from an allocation made to an eligible entity under subsection (a) for a fiscal year will not be used by the entity for the purpose for which the allocation was made, the agency shall, in accordance with such rules as it determines to be appropriate, reallocate such amount, consistent with such subsection, to other eligible entities in the State that the agency determines will use the amount to carry out that purpose.

(d) REQUIRED RESERVATION- A State educational agency receiving a grant under this subpart for a fiscal year —

(1) shall reserve not more than 15 percent of the agency's allotment under section 3111(c)(3) to award subgrants to eligible entities in the State that have experienced a significant increase, as compared to the average of the 2 preceding fiscal years, in the percentage or number of immigrant children and youth, who have enrolled, during the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the subgrant is made, in public and nonpublic elementary schools and secondary schools in the geographic areas under the jurisdiction of, or served by, such entities; and

(2) in awarding subgrants under paragraph (1) —

(A) shall equally consider eligible entities that satisfy the requirement of such paragraph but have limited or no experience in serving immigrant children and youth; and

(B) shall consider the quality of each local plan under section 3116 and ensure that each subgrant is of sufficient size and scope to meet the purposes of this part.

RATIONALE FOR CRITERIA

The purpose of the Title III program is to assure that LEP and immigrant students receive effective instruction in English language acquisition for the purpose of assuring that the students are able to participate in instruction in the English language and to raise the student's academic achievement levels. This program supports the Board goal of high academic achievement for all students.

CRITERIA

■ Defined in Legislation □ Defined in Department's Grant ■ Proposed by Staff

- Eighty-five percent (85%) of the Title III funds will be designated for English language instruction for LEP students and 15% for services for immigrant students.
- Subgrants for English language instruction for LEP students will be distributed on a per pupil basis with a minimum grant allocation of \$10,000 as required in the legislation.
- Grants for services for immigrant students will be awarded on a per pupil basis to school districts and public school academies with at least 20 immigrant students and an increase in the immigrant student population for each of the two preceding years with the percentage increase for at least one of those years being greater than the average percentage increase for the state. A minimum grant award will be established at \$10,000.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

School districts and consortia of school districts with a sufficient number of LEP students to receive a grant of at least \$10,000 will be eligible for funding English Language Instruction. School districts with at least 20 immigrant students and that experience a significant increase in their immigrant student population will be eligible for funding.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

Total Title III grant funds - \$4,647,694

This total funding is distributed between the two programs as follows:

LEP grant funds - \$3,950,540

Immigrant grant funds - \$697,154

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

Office of Field Services

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