

FACT SHEET



Title I Schoolwide Programs

What is the purpose of a Schoolwide Program?

A Title I Schoolwide Program is a comprehensive reform strategy designed to upgrade the entire educational program in a school that receives Title I funding. Its primary goal is to ensure all students, particularly those who are low achieving, demonstrate proficient and advanced levels of achievement on state academic achievement standards.

What is a Title I Schoolwide Program?

- A Schoolwide Program is built on schoolwide reform strategies, rather than separate, add-on services.
- It serves all children in the building.
- The program provides flexibility in spending Title I funds.
- It permits flexibility to combine other federal funds in support of the Schoolwide Program
- The program focuses on results.

What are the advantages of Schoolwide Programs?

- A Schoolwide Program is a catalyst for comprehensive reform of the entire instructional program.
- It allows educators to come together and work collaboratively.
- The program addresses the needs of students in an integrated way.
- It permits federal resources to be spent in ways that most effectively raise the achievement of students.

Which schools are eligible to operate Schoolwide Programs?

A Title I school may operate a Schoolwide Program if the following criteria are met:—

At least 40% of the children enrolled in the school or residing in the school attendance area are from low-income families or

- An Ed-Flex waiver has been granted from the Kansas State Department of Education. (KSDE will accept applications from the district and not from individual buildings. The district application may involve several schools and programs.)

Note: To determine eligibility for a Schoolwide Program, a district may use a different poverty measure than the one used by the district to identify and rank school attendance areas for Title I, Part A eligibility and participation.

What happens if a school that becomes a Schoolwide Program drops below the initial eligibility threshold in a subsequent year?

To promote effective, long-term planning, a school can maintain its Schoolwide Program eligibility even if it drops below the initial poverty threshold of 40 percent in following years. However, the school must continue to meet general Title I eligibility and selection requirements and the district must have sufficient funds to serve the school.

How does a school become a Schoolwide Program?

A district becomes a Schoolwide program when three actions have been demonstrated:

1. The district determines that a school's poverty level makes it eligible to become a Schoolwide program – 40% or greater—and the school has been selected to participate in Title I.
2. The school, in consultation with its district, decides it wants to become Schoolwide.
3. High quality assistance and support is available to the school.

The school demonstrates to its district that it will receive high-quality technical assistance and support from other assistance providers i.e., universities, regional education laboratories, educational agencies, or other successful schools.

All new Schoolwide schools must use the KansaStar System

What are the essential components of a Schoolwide Program?

1. A comprehensive needs assessment.
2. Schoolwide reform strategies.
3. Instruction by highly qualified staff.
4. High-quality, on-going professional development.
5. Strategies to hire and retain high quality teachers.
6. Strategies to increase parent involvement.
7. Transition plans for preschool children to enter local elementary schools.
8. Opportunities for teacher decision-making using formative and summative data points.
9. Activities designed to provide effective, timely and measurable assistance to those students at risk of failure.
10. Coordination and integration of Federal, State and local services and programs.

For more information, contact:

Joe Jewett
Coordinator
Special Education and Title Services
(785) 296-7884
jjewett@ksde.org



Kansas State Department of Education
900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212
www.ksde.org