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## Schoolwide Programs

A school may operate a schoolwide program if **at least 40 percent** of the students enrolled in the school or residing in the school attendance area are from low-income families in the first implementation year. To promote effective, long-term planning, a school may maintain its schoolwide program eligibility in subsequent years even if it drops below the required poverty threshold after the first year of implementation. If a school is below the 40% threshold, the school may apply for a waiver from ESE if they feel a schoolwide model will best serve the needs of their students.

### **What is a Schoolwide Program?**

A schoolwide program permits an eligible school to use Title I, Part A funds in combination with state and local resources and most other federal education program funds to upgrade the entire educational program of the school to raise the academic achievement of all the students. Different from Title I targeted assistance schools, schoolwide programs use the approach of improving the entire school program with the intent of meeting the needs of those students who are failing or most at risk of failing to meet the state's academic achievement standards -- in other words, the intended Title I beneficiaries. Contrary to targeted assistance programs, schoolwide programs are not required to identify and select individual students for Title I services since the entire school population is involved in the schoolwide program.

**A schoolwide program that consolidates Title I, Part A funds with other eligible federal sources into one schoolwide account is exempt from the statutory or regulatory provision of any other United States Department of Education noncompetitive formula grant program or discretionary grant program (except for those under IDEA)** as long as the intent and purposes of those programs are met. Schoolwide programs are not exempt from requirements relating to health, safety, civil rights, student and parental participation and involvement, services to private school children, maintenance of effort, comparability of services, uses of federal funds to supplement, not supplant non-federal funds, or the distribution of funds to states or school districts.

### **Required Components of Schoolwide Programs**

Under Section 1114 of the Every Student Succeeds Act, a Schoolwide program plan must be:

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- *Developed with the involvement of parents and other members of the community to be served and individuals who will carry out the plan, including teachers, principals, other school leaders, paraprofessionals, and administrators of programs included;*
- *Regularly monitored and revised as necessary based on student needs;*
- *Developed in coordination and integration with other Federal, State, and local services, resources, and programs;*
- *Based on a comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school that takes into account information on the academic achievement of children in relation to the challenging State academic standards, particularly those children who are failing or most at risk of failing to meet those standards;*
- *Inclusive of description of the strategies the school will use to:*
  - o *Provide opportunities for all children to meet the challenging State academic standards, particularly those most at risk of not meeting those standards; and*
  - o *Strengthen the academic program of the school, increase the amount and quality of learning time, and provide an enriched and accelerated curriculum, which may include programs, activities, and courses necessary to provide a well-rounded education.*

**NOTE:** *Schools that combine migrant funds under Part C of Title I in a schoolwide program must address the identified needs of migratory children that result from the effects of their lifestyle or are needed to permit these children to participate effectively in school. Document that these services address the identified needs.*

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