

NOTICE INVITING 2009-2010 TITLE III APPLICATIONS

Title III, Part A, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Immigrant Students: LEA Subgrants for Supplementary Programs and Services

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TITLE III:

Title III of the No Child Left Behind Act authorizes states to make subgrants to local educational agencies (LEAs) for the purposes of: 1) developing high-quality language instructional programs in teaching limited English proficiency (LEP) students and serving immigrant children and youth and; 2) providing professional development for educators working with students and families.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

- **Wednesday, September 16, 2009: Notification of Intent to Apply for Title III LEP Subgrant** -- LEAs or Consortia must notify Jim McCobb, Title III Program Coordinator, (828-0185 or james.mccobb@state.vt.us) of their ‘intent to apply’ by 9/16/2009 at the latest.
- **Friday, October 9, 2009: Application Deadline for Title III LEP Subgrant**

TITLE III LEP INSTRUCTIONS & APPLICATION (SECTIONS A-E and SECTION F)

The attached instructions and application forms with this email can be downloaded. Please read the instructions and attached documents carefully *before* filling out the application. The tentative allocations to LEAs that do not apply will be redistributed to eligible applicants who meet the required deadlines.

FUNDING AND ELIGIBILITY:

Each year the Department of Education receives \$325,000 (small state minimum) for making **Title III LEP and Title III Immigrant subgrant awards** to *eligible* LEAs or Consortia (two or more LEAs). **This memo addresses only the Title III LEP portion of the funds.** Information regarding the Immigrant Subgrant(s) for the 2009-2010 school year will be forthcoming.

Title III LEP Subgrants

Ninety percent of the Title III funds are used for LEP subgrant awards.

Eligibility - An LEA or Consortium must have enough limited English proficient students (English Language Learners or ELLs) to qualify for at least a \$10,000 subgrant. **This year funds will be targeted to the 1,209 ELLs whose Overall (Composite) Score on the Spring 2009 ACCESS for ELLs assessment was lower than Proficiency Level 5.0.** [NOTE: A student may score 5.0 or higher and still be classified as LEP based on other criteria, but *Title III funds* are targeted for students scoring lower than 5.0. The Vermont Department of Education recommends the use of multiple criteria (NOT the single *ACCESS for ELLs* composite score) to determine when to exit students from ELL services—even though the cut score is used to allocate Title III funds.

Appendix A of the **attached Title III Grant Application Instructions** lists the number of eligible students and the **tentative** allocation for each LEA in Vermont. (**Final** allocations are determined by the number of LEAs that actually apply and qualify. Funds from LEAs that do not apply will be reallocated among LEAs that qualify.)

Independent LEA –

Based on the student count and the currently available Title III LEP funds, the **estimated** allocation for the 2009-2010 school year is \$241.94 per student. Therefore, an LEA needs to have at least 42 students to **qualify independently**.

In other words, if your LEA has enough students to qualify for a grant of \$10,000 or more, it may apply alone.

Title III Consortium (Multiple LEAs)–

LEAs that do not have enough students to qualify alone may join with other LEAs interested in submitting an application as long as collectively they qualify for a grant of at least \$10,000. The conditions for consortia are that one LEA must act as lead and fiscal agent and, **all LEAs** must assure that they will meet Title III requirements and be accountable for implementing the required activities. For more detailed information on these requirements, please read the 3/2/2006 memo, *Clarification on Title III Requirements (Q & A regarding Consortia of LEAs under Title III, Part A.)*

FURTHER QUESTIONS? For technical assistance, contact Jim McCobb, Title III Program Coordinator, Vermont Department of Education, at (802) 828-0185 or James.McCobb@state.vt.us.