

NOTICE INVITING TITLE III APPLICATIONS (PROGRAM OVERVIEW)

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:

- **Friday, September 17, 2010: 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 9/17/2010 at the latest.
- **Friday, October 8, 2010: Deadline for submitting Title III LEP subgrant application.**

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 school year 2010-2011 will be forthcoming.

Title III LEP Subgrants

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. **In 2009-2010, every LEA in Vermont was required to assess all English Language Learners** with the 2010 *ACCESS for ELLs* test. This year the *estimated* allocations for 2010-2011 are based on the number of students who did not meet the State’s new definition of “proficient,” i.e., required Overall Score (Composite) of at least 5.0 on a Tier B or Tier C test, plus a minimum proficiency level of 4.0 in both the reading and writing domains. Kindergarten students are also included in the count of eligible students, since they do not take a Tier B or Tier C test and cannot be exited until meeting the definition of “proficient” on a higher grade-level assessment.

[*Note:* Due to changes in the State’s Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs), **all students** who meet the new definition of “proficiency” (except Kindergarten students) will: 1) *not* be eligible for **Title III** funds/services; 2) be considered as exited from the

LEP subgroup in 2010-2011 for both Title III and Title I accountability; and 3) be counted as “Monitored Former Limited English Proficient” in the both the Title III and Title I accountability for 2 years after exit from Title III services.

Appendix A of the **attached Title III Grant Application Instructions** lists the number of eligible students and the **estimated** 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 2010-2011 school year is **\$278.79 per student**. **Therefore, an LEA needs to have at least 36 eligible 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.

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.