

**Issue Date:** April 01, 2024

## **Title I Part A Schoolwide Program Waiver Application**

Under Section 1114 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), a local education agency (LEA) may choose to serve a Title-I eligible school as a Schoolwide Program if that school serves a low-income student population of at least 40%.

However, ESSA section 1114(a)(1)(B) permits a State Education Agency (SEA) to waive this 40% low-income threshold, after considering how a Schoolwide Program will best serve the needs of students, particularly those students most at-risk to not meet challenging state standards.

If a participating school does not meet the 40% low-income threshold and wishes to obtain a waiver to operate a Schoolwide Program, the LEA must complete a waiver request on the school's behalf. The LEA must complete a separate form for each individual school seeking a waiver.

The LEA and school remain responsible for meeting all other ESSA requirements for operating a Title I Schoolwide Program as described in ESSA section 1114(b). This includes the development of a school-level needs assessment and Schoolwide Program Plan as well as completing the Schoolwide Program section within the Data Inventory.

**Waiver request forms must be submitted with the school's Schoolwide Program Plan to Amber Graves, Grant Management Specialist via [amber.graves@vermont.gov](mailto:amber.graves@vermont.gov).**

The submitted waiver requests will be reviewed by a panel of individuals at the Agency of Education (AOE) and any clarifying issues will be resolved. Approval of waivers is not guaranteed. LEAs will be notified of the decision of all waiver requests via email. All waiver requests must be approved prior to submitting the LEA's Consolidated Federal Programs (CFP) application.

Approved SWP waivers will be good for a three-year period. However, the waiver will be void if the school loses Title I eligibility during that three-year period.

### **School and LEA Information**

School Name:	
LEA Name:	
Principal's Name	
Superintendent's Name:	

### **Waiver Justification**

1. Describe the need and rationale for the Title I Schoolwide Program waiver:



Contact: Consolidated Federal Programs, Title I Director Jessie Murray,  
[jessie.murray@vermont.gov](mailto:jessie.murray@vermont.gov)

- How would a schoolwide program allow the school to improve the academic achievement of all students better than a targeted assistance program would?
- What are the specific needs of the school? What strategies would be implemented in the schoolwide program to address these needs and improve academic achievement for all students?
  - As a reminder, this school is currently eligible for a targeted assistance program. In a targeted assistance program, only students who are identified through academic criteria to be most at risk of failing to meet standards, as well as categorically eligible children, are able to receive Title I services. Students who are categorically eligible are those experiencing homelessness, those living in institutions for neglected or delinquent or attending a community day program, and students served in the past 2 years in Migrant Education or Head Start programs.

2. Describe how the school will ensure that it will meet the specific needs of students with the greatest academic need:
- What academic and non-academic services would students at-risk of failing to meet standards and categorically eligible students receive in this schoolwide program?
  - How are the needs of these populations being prioritized in a schoolwide program even when all students are eligible to be served?

## Assurances

- The school has completed the required Schoolwide Program needs assessment (ESSA Section 1114(b)(6)) within the last year, as represented in the CFP Data Inventory.
- The school has a current Schoolwide Program plan that meets all requirements as described in ESSA Section 1114(b) which has been attached to this waiver submission.
- The school assures consultation occurred with a broad range of stakeholders, including parents, school staff, and others in the community in the planning and discussions regarding the Schoolwide Program plan as described in ESSA Section 1114(b)(2).
- The school can provide supporting documentation regarding the actions listed above.

## Sources of Funds

Please indicate which sources of funds will be combined to create the Schoolwide Program pool of funds.

- Title I, Part A
- Title II, Part A
- Title IV, Part A
- IDEA
- Title IV, Part B (21<sup>st</sup> Century)
- State and/or Local Funds
- Other (describe):

## Authorizing Signatures

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Signature of School Principal \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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### For Vermont Agency of Education Use Only

This Title I Schoolwide Program Waiver has been reviewed by the AOE review panel and is approved as written:

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Title I State Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_