



BEST FOR
ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

**Title V, Part B, Subpart 2:
Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS) Program**

Debby Thompson | Assistant Commissioner

Division of Federal Programs and Oversight | December 2020



BEST FOR
ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

ACADEMICS

ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL
HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY
EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE
THEY LIVE

WHOLE CHILD

TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE
ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC
NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS

EDUCATORS

TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH
FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION
AND BE THE TOP STATE TO
BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER
AND LEADER

TN

Department of
Education

Title V, Part B, Subpart 2, Rural and Low- Income School (RLIS)





Agenda:



- Overview of Title V, Part B, Subpart 2, RLIS
 - What is RLIS?
 - Eligibility
- Needs Assessment
- Allowable Use of Funds
- Resources



Overview of Title V, Part B, Subpart 2



What is RLIS?

- The Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS) program is a program that provides grant funds to rural local educational agencies (LEAs) that serve concentrations of children from low-income families.
- This program is offered through the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) by the U.S Department of Education (ED).
- The Secretary of Education awards formula grants to state educational agencies (SEAs), which in turn award subgrants to eligible LEAs.



Eligibility under ESSA

- To be eligible for RLIS, the following requirements must be met:
 - **20 percent or more** of the children age **5 to 17** served by the LEA are from families with incomes below the poverty line as reported in the [RLIS Eligibility page](#).
 - **Each** school within the LEA must have a **locale code** of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43 as assigned by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).
- RLIS funding for eligible LEAs is provided through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA).



Needs Assessment



Needs Assessment

- LEAs that accept RLIS funds, must complete a comprehensive needs assessment that will **identify how the funds will be used**.
 - The annual LEA planning process (InformTN) can meet this requirement.
- Within the Title V, Part B section of the CFA, LEAs must **describe how the proposed use of funds relates to the strategies in the LEA plan**.
- The programs and activities implemented with RLIS **funds must be connected to an established need, evidence-based, and supplemental**.



Allowable Use of Funds



Allowable Use of Funds

- Funds may be spent on activities authorized by one or more of the following programs :
 - **Title I, Part A:** Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs
 - Example: School-based instructional coaches.
 - **Title II, Part A:** Supporting Effective Instruction
 - Example: Training on how to use data and assessments to improve classroom practice and student learning.



Allowable Use of Funds Continued

- Funds may be spent on activities authorized by one or more of the following programs :
 - **Title III, Part A:** Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
 - Example: Four (4) Chromebooks for small group work within the ESL class.
 - **Title IV, Part A:** Student Support and Academic Enrichment
 - Example: A school district utilizes funds for a part-time school resource officer for one school.
 - **Parent and family engagement activities**



Resources



Resources

- U.S. Department of Education - Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP):
<https://www2.ed.gov/nclb/freedom/local/reap.html>
- U.S. Department of Education – Rural and Low-Income School Program (RLIS):
<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/reaprlisp/index.html>
- U.S. Department of Education – REAP Program Guidance:
<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/reapwhatleasneedtoknowinfy2019presentation.pdf>
- Navigating Resources for Rural Schools:
<https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ruraled/>
- ASCD Infobrief – Rural Education, Rural Schools:
<http://www.ascd.org/publications/newsletters/policy-priorities/feb00/num20/toc.aspx>



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Thank You!

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