

#### 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





### 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



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







- 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?

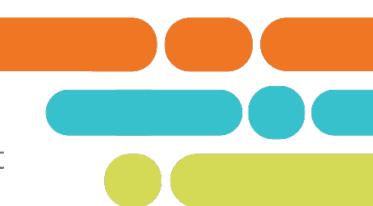
- The Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS) program is a program that provides grant funds to rural local educational agencies (LEAs) that serve concentrations of children from low-income families.
- This program is offered through the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) by the U.S Department of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





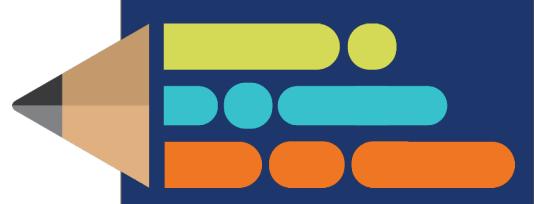
## Eligibility under ESSA

- 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 <u>RLIS Eligibility page.</u>
  - 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



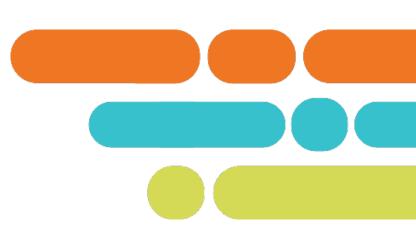


© 2020 Tennessee Department of Education

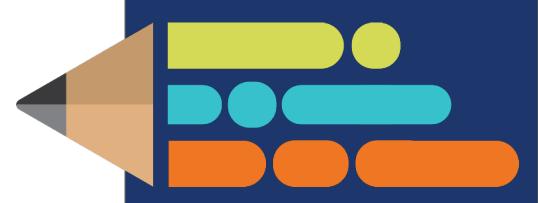
### Needs Assessment

- 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





© 2020 Tennessee Department of Education

### 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



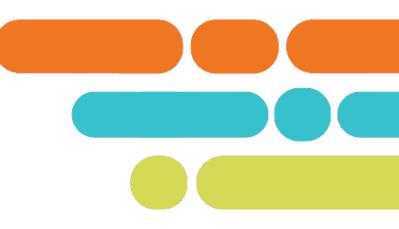
# Resources



© 2020 Tennessee Department of Education

### Resources

- U.S. Department of Education Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP): <u>https://www2.ed.gov/nclb/freedom/local/reap.html</u>
- U.S. Department of Education Rural and Low-Income School Program (RLIS): <u>https://www2.ed.gov/programs/reaprlisp/index.html</u>
- U.S. Department of Education REAP Program Guidance: <u>https://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/reapwhatleasneedtoknow</u> <u>infy2019presentation.pdf</u>
- Navigating Resources for Rural Schools: <u>https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ruraled/</u>
- ASCD Infobrief Rural Education, Rural Schools: <u>http://www.ascd.org/publications/newsletters/policy-priorities/feb00/num20/toc.aspx</u>





### **Contact Information**

- Debby Thompson | Assistant Commissioner Division of Federal Programs and Oversight <u>Deborah.Thompson@tn.gov</u>
- Brinn Obermiller | Senior Director of ESEA Oversight Division of Federal Programs and Oversight Brinn.Obermiller@tn.gov



# **Thank You!**

**#TNBestForAll** 



### Fraud, Waste, or Abuse

Citizens and agencies are encouraged to report fraud, waste, or abuse in State and Local government.

<u>NOTICE:</u> This agency is a recipient of taxpayer funding. If you observe an agency director or employee engaging in any activity which you consider to be illegal, improper or wasteful, please call the state Comptroller's toll-free Hotline:

#### 1-800-232-5454

Notifications can also be submitted electronically at:

http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline

