

# Title IV, Part A

## 2020-21 Student Support and Academic Enrichment Annual Report

Tennessee Department of Education | May 2022

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## Overview

## Purpose of Title IV, Part A

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2015, introduced a new block formula grant under Title IV, Part A with a wide range of allowable uses. The Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant is intended to improve students' academic achievement by increasing the capacity of state educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and local communities to:

- provide all students with access to a well-rounded education (Well-Rounded Educational Activities),
- improve school conditions for student learning (Safe and Healthy Students), and
- improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students (Effective Use of Technology). (ESSA §§ 4107-4109)

The purpose of this report is to summarize the department's administration of the Title IV, Part A grant program for the 2020-21 school/fiscal year.

## **Program Eligibility**

Title IV, Part A allocations are calculated based on the Title I, Part A formula. To receive a Title IV, Part A allocation for a given fiscal year, LEAs must have accepted, received, and utilized the awarded Title I, Part A allocations the previous fiscal year. (ESEA § 4105(a)(1)). For 2020-21, all LEAs in Tennessee were eligible to receive Title IV, Part A funds.

### **Prioritization of Funds**

LEAs must prioritize SSAE funds to schools that:

- Have the greatest needs determined by the LEA;
- Have the highest percentage or numbers of low-income children;
- Are identified for comprehensive support and improvement under Title I;
- Are implementing targeted support and improvement plans under Title I; or
- Are identified as a persistently dangerous school under ESEA § 8532.

### **Program Requirements**

#### **Annual Needs Assessment**

LEAs that receive at least \$30,000 in Title IV, Part A funds must conduct a comprehensive needs assessment that includes, at a minimum, a focus on the three main Title IV-A program focus areas: Well Rounded Education, Safe and Healthy Schools, and Effective Use of Technology. (ESEA § 4106(d)(1)) In Tennessee, all LEAs, regardless of their allocation amount, meet this requirement through the completion of the LEA plan in InformTN, Tennessee's district and school planning platform. Specifically, there are three (3) questions focused on Title IV, Part A in the <u>Reflect to Plan</u> section of every LEA's annual plan. The responses to these questions in InformTN should have a direct link to the planned Title IV, Part A budget, and application in the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) in ePlan.

Focus Area	InformTN Question
Well-Rounded	The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) defines a well-rounded education as the courses,
Educational	activities, and subject programming that a district will provide to ensure that all students
Opportunities	have access to an enriched curriculum and educational experience, including access to
	high-quality materials. Describe the district's vision of a well-rounded education and

	<ul> <li>how it will ensure all students, including those with disabilities, have access to those courses, activities, and programs. Include in the response: <ol> <li>A description of the district's vision for a well-rounded education;</li> <li>A description of the courses and opportunities (i.e. enrichment, foreign language, health &amp; wellbeing, early post-secondary, etc.) that go beyond core subjects by grade band that support the district's vision;</li> <li>Actions the district will take to ensure all applicable subgroups, including students with disabilities, have access to courses and opportunities that support them in reaching the district's vision; and</li> <li>Specific local, state, and federal funding sources (including ESSER), that support the district's efforts.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
Safe, Supportive, and Healthy Environments (i.e. Safe & Healthy Students)	<ul> <li>Describe the priority needs for providing (1) safe, (2) supportive, and (3) healthy environments in all schools and how the district will meet those needs. Include in the response: <ol> <li>A description of the district's priority needs for providing (1) safe, (2) supportive, and (3) healthy environments and the strategies the district will implement to meet those needs; and</li> <li>Specific local, state, and federal funding sources (including ESSER) the district will utilize to provide safe, supportive, and healthy environments in schools.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
Integration and Effective Use of Technology in the Classroom	<ul> <li>Describe the level of access that students have to technology as part of the instructional program and how the district ensures that technology is being utilized effectively by students and educators. Describe the challenges faced in effectively integrating technology into the instructional program. What steps are the district taking to address these challenges? (Include possible funding sources to be used to support increased access to technology.) Include in the response: <ol> <li>A detailed description of the level of access students have to technology across all grade bands;</li> <li>A detailed description of how the district ensures technology is being utilized effectively by students and educators;</li> <li>A detailed description of the challenges in effectively integrating technology into the instructional program and steps being taken to address these challenges; and</li> <li>Specific local, state, and federal funding sources (including ESSER) that support the integration and effective use of technology.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

In developing its needs assessment and application, LEAs must consult with stakeholders in the area served by the LEA. Stakeholders should include, but are not limited to:

- Parents
- Teachers
- Principals and other school leaders
- Charter school representatives (as applicable)
- Community-based organizations
- Local Government representatives
- Indian tribes or tribal organizations
- Others with relevant experience

#### **Spending Requirements**

LEAs receiving **\$30,000 or more** in Title IV, Part A dollars must spend funds in all three focus areas.



LEAs receiving **less than \$30,000** in Title IV, Part A dollars may spend funds with no spending limits in any of the focus areas.

**Note:** No matter the allocation amount, a special rule within ESSA states that **no more than 15 percent of funds** in the Effective use of Technology focus area may be spent on technology infrastructure, including, but not limited to: devices, equipment, software applications, platforms, digital instructional resources, and/or other one-time IT purchases.

### **Utilization of Funds**

LEAs may use Title IV, Part A funds for allowable activities within the Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities, Safe and Healthy Students, and Effective Use of Technology focus areas as outlined in ESEA §§ 4107-4109 and in the <u>Title IV, Part A Non-Regulatory Guidance</u>.

#### **Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities**

The first purpose of the Title IV, Part A program is to provide all students with a well-rounded education and access to an enriched curriculum and educational experiences. A well-rounded education:

- helps students make important connections among their studies, their curiosities, their passions, and the skills they need to become critical thinkers and productive members of society.
- promotes a diverse set of learning experiences that engage students across a variety of course activities and programs.

Programs, subjects, and activities that support a well-rounded education may include, but are not limited to:

- English
- Reading language arts
- Writing
- Science, technology, engineering, & math (STEM)
- Mathematics
- Civics and government
- Economics
- Geography
- Foreign languages
- Computer science

- Arts
- History
- Career and technical education (CTE)
- Music
- Health and physical education
- College and career counseling
- Social-emotional learning
- Environmental education
- Accelerated learning programs

#### Safe and Healthy Students

The second purpose of the Title IV, Part A program is to improve school conditions for student learning. Funds may be used for any program or activity that fosters safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free school environments, including direct student services and professional development and training for school staff. Programs, subjects, and activities that support safe and healthy students can be authorized by topic and may include, but are not limited to:

Safe and Supportive Schools	Student Physical and Mental Health
<ul> <li>Preventing bullying and harassment</li> <li>Relationship-building skills</li> <li>School dropout prevention</li> <li>Re-entry programs &amp; transition services for justice-involved youth</li> <li>School readiness and academic success</li> <li>Child sexual abuse awareness and prevention</li> <li>Reducing use of exclusionary discipline practices &amp; promoting supportive school discipline</li> <li>Suicide prevention</li> <li>Building school and community relationships</li> <li>Culturally responsive teaching and PD on implicit bias</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Drug and violence prevention</li> <li>Health and safety practices in school athletic programs</li> <li>School-based health and mental health services</li> <li>Healthy, active lifestyle, nutritional education</li> <li>Physical activities</li> <li>Trauma-informed classroom management</li> <li>Preventing use of alcohol, tobacco, smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes</li> <li>Chronic disease management</li> </ul>

#### **Effective Use of Technology**

The third purpose of the Title IV, Part A grant is to improve the use of technology and thus improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students. When carefully designed and thoughtfully applied, technology can accelerate, amplify, and expand the impact of effective practices that support student learning, increase community engagement, foster safe and healthy environments, and enable well-rounded educational opportunities.

Title IV, Part A program funds may be used to provide educators, school leaders, and administrators with the professional learning tools, devices, content, and resources to do the following activities, among other allowable uses:

- Provide personalized learning;
- Discover, adapt, and share high-quality resources;
- Implement blended learning strategies; and
- Implement school- and district-wide approaches to inform instruction, support teacher collaboration, and personalize learning.

As noted above, a special rule within ESSA states that no more than 15 percent of funds in this content area may be spent on technology infrastructure, including but not limited to: devices, equipment, software applications, platforms, digital instructional resources, and/or other one-time IT purchases. <u>Therefore at least</u> **85% of funds** in the Effective Use of Technology should be used to support professional learning to enable the effective use of educational technology.

### Supplement, Not Supplant

ESEA § 4110 requires that Title IV, Part A funds be used to supplement and not supplant, nonfederal funds that would otherwise be used for activities authorized under the Title IV, Part A program. <u>This means that LEAs may not use Title IV, Part A funds to carry out activities that would otherwise be paid for with state or local funds.</u> In determining whether a particular use of funds would violate the non-supplanting requirement, LEAs should consider matters such as whether the cost involved is currently paid for using state or local funds or whether the cost involved is for an activity that is required by state or local law. In no event may LEAs decrease the amount of state or local funds used to pay the cost of an activity simply because of the availability of the Title IV, Part A program funds.

The Tennessee Department of Education's (department's) division of federal programs and oversight (FPO) administers, monitors, sets policy, develops guidance, and provides professional development and technical assistance focused on an array of federal and state education programs, including Title IV, Part A.

The Title IV, Part A federal grant is cyclical, beginning in July and ending in September of the following year. To receive the grant, LEAs begin by completing a comprehensive needs assessment/LEA plan through the InformTN platform. Once the LEA plan has been approved, LEAs receive a formula-based allocation and submit a budget through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) in ePlan, the department's electronic grants management system. LEAs then administer the grant, submitting budget adjustments/amendments in ePlan as needed. Although LEAs may carry over Title IV funds, it is expected that LEAs, in the best interests of teachers and students, expend and draw down funds regularly through the year and expend all funds as budgeted.

The department monitors all grant funds awarded to LEAs to ensure fidelity of implementation. Tennessee's multi-tiered monitoring framework includes three distinctive levels: on-site, desktop, and self-assessment. A risk analysis comprised of over 50 factors identifies the perceived level of risk and likelihood that an LEA may not comply with certain requirements. Results from the analysis designate each LEA's risk as one of three levels: significant (which results in an on-site visit), elevated (which identifies LEAs for participation in desktop monitoring), or low risk (with LEAs completing a self-assessment). All LEAs statewide are required to participate in one level of monitoring annually.

Four regionally based ESEA divisional coordinators and the Title IV, Part A director provide technical assistance to all Title IV, Part A grantees in the state. Training is coordinated at a state level and delivered through an annual federal programs conference, webinars, office hours, newsletters, and personalized technical assistance. The department publishes an annual <u>Coordinated Spending Guide</u>, a <u>CFA Technical Application Guide</u>, and maintains a wealth of other resources in <u>TDOE Resources</u> in ePlan.

## 2020-21 Title IV LEA Allocations

In 2020-21, 147 Tennessee LEAs were eligible for the following amounts of Title IV, Part A funding.

LEA Name	Amount	LEA Name	Amount
Achievement School District		Germantown	
Alamo	\$528,871.00		\$108,349.00 \$33,923.00
	\$10,000.00	Gibson Co Sp Dist	-
Alcoa	\$20,572.00	Giles County	\$73,745.00
Alvin C York Institute	\$12,838.00	Grainger County	\$73,794.00
Anderson County	\$117,768.00	Greene County	\$143,972.00
Arlington	\$63,175.00	Greeneville	\$50,503.00
Athens	\$51,019.00	Grundy County	\$50,864.00
Bartlett	\$225,880.00	Hamblen County	\$193,292.00
Bedford County	\$152,614.00	Hamilton County	\$883,749.00
Bells	\$10,000.00	Hancock County	\$40,620.00
Benton County	\$57,072.00	Hardeman County	\$90,651.00
Bledsoe County	\$48,187.00	Hardin County	\$87,866.00
Blount County	\$171,789.00	Hawkins County	\$157,152.00
Bradford	\$10,000.00	Haywood County	\$70,885.00
Bradley County	\$151,970.00	Henderson County	\$64,556.00
Bristol	\$79,836.00	Henry County	\$75,356.00
Campbell County	\$151,625.00	Hickman County	\$75,262.00
Cannon County	\$34,463.00	Hollow Rock - Bruceton	\$17,147.00
Carter County	\$144,057.00	Houston County	\$25,907.00
Cheatham County	\$59,569.00	Humboldt City	\$42,506.00
Chester County	\$46,687.00	Humphreys County	\$48,340.00
Claiborne County	\$111,110.00	Huntingdon Special School District	\$29,217.00
Clay County	\$31,312.00	Jackson County	\$37,575.00
Cleveland	\$118,398.00	Jefferson County	\$135,022.00
Clinton	\$14,525.00	Johnson City	\$133,015.00
Cocke County	\$145,568.00	Johnson County	\$65,434.00
Coffee County	\$80,213.00	Kingsport	\$164,996.00
Collierville	\$153,449.00	Knox County	\$1,103,934.00
Crockett County	\$30,988.00	Lake County	\$31,842.00
Cumberland County	\$145,997.00	Lakeland	\$27,358.00
Davidson County	\$2,669,323.00	Lauderdale County	\$128,298.00
Dayton	\$23,871.00	Lawrence County	\$150,108.00
Decatur County	\$34,300.00	Lebanon	\$46,733.00
DeKalb County	\$67,355.00	Lenoir City	\$27,981.00
Dickson County	\$128,189.00	Lewis County	\$40,404.00
Dyer County	\$59,466.00	Lexington	\$18,415.00
Dyersburg	\$90,097.00	Lincoln County	\$56,058.00
Elizabethton	\$90,097.00	Loudon County	\$65,020.00
Etowah	\$10,000.00	Macon County	\$84,890.00
			-
Fayette County Schools	\$86,138.00	Madison County	\$365,730.00
Fayetteville	\$26,102.00	Manchester	\$29,002.00
Fentress County	\$64,572.00	Marion County	\$77,481.00
Franklin County	\$93,610.00	Marshall County	\$78,240.00
Franklin SSD	\$28,508.00	Maryville	\$39,266.00

LEA Name	Amount	LEA Name	Amount
Maury County	\$176,774.00	Sevier County	\$269,060.00
McKenzie	\$23,969.00	Shelby County	\$4,859,198.00
McMinn County	\$107,573.00	Smith County	\$47,142.00
McNairy County	\$89,698.00	South Carroll	\$10,000.00
Meigs County	\$38,549.00	Stewart County	\$34,967.00
Milan	\$33,707.00	Sullivan County	\$198,641.00
Millington Mun Schools	\$68,341.00	Sumner County	\$303,964.00
Monroe County	\$105,556.00	Sweetwater	\$29,083.00
Montgomery County	\$570,538.00	Tipton County	\$170,953.00
Moore County	\$10,000.00	<b>TN Public Charter Commission</b>	\$563.11
Morgan County	\$62,543.00	TN School for Blind	\$11,475.00
Murfreesboro	\$121,416.00	TN School for the Deaf	\$17,076.00
Newport	\$43,489.00	TN State Board of Education	\$36,278.89
Oak Ridge	\$67,162.00	Trenton	\$27,625.00
Obion County	\$55,948.00	Trousdale County	\$20,675.00
Oneida	\$22,748.00	Tullahoma	\$67,820.00
Overton County	\$59,553.00	Unicoi County	\$44,961.00
Paris	\$42,129.00	Union City	\$48,375.00
Perry County	\$31,821.00	Union County	\$75,928.00
Pickett County	\$13,025.00	Van Buren County	\$19,743.00
Polk County	\$45,405.00	Warren County	\$179,427.00
Putnam County	\$200,497.00	Washington County	\$114,632.00
Rhea County	\$93,233.00	Wayne County	\$46,029.00
Richard City	\$10,000.00	Weakley County	\$83,310.00
Roane County	\$131,256.00	West Carroll Sp Dist	\$22,352.00
Robertson County	\$141,449.00	West TN School for the Deaf	\$10,000.00
Rogersville	\$17,939.00	White County	\$83,813.00
Rutherford County	\$419,421.00	Williamson County	\$50,528.00
Scott County	\$76,539.00	Wilson County	\$122,610.00
Sequatchie County	\$47,719.00		

## 2020-21 Title IV, Part A Transfers and Use of Funds Flexibility

Under ESSA, LEAs have the flexibility to target eligible federal funds to the programs and activities that most effectively address their unique needs. LEAs may transfer up to 100 percent of their Title IV, Part A allocations into any of the following programs:

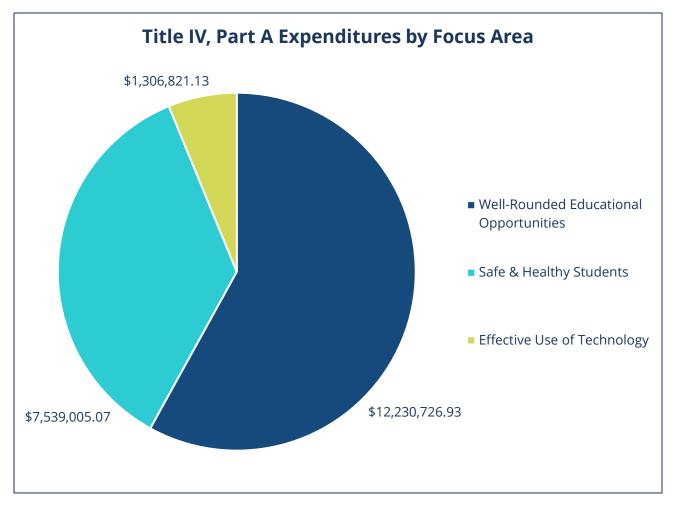
- Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies
- Title I, Part D Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk
- Title II, Part A Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III, Part A English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement
- Title V, Part B, Rural and Low-Income Schools (ESSA § 5103)

Additionally, LEAs may transfer up to 100 percent of their Title II, Part A allocation into Title IV, Part A. Once funds are transferred, they take on the identity of the title program into which they are transferred and must be spent under the rules applicable to that program.

Transferred From	Transferred To	Number of Transfers	Amount
Title IV, Part A	Title I, Part A	61	\$5,338,605
Title IV, Part A	Title I, Part D	1	\$4,500
Title IV, Part A	Title II, Part A	30	\$2,120,980
Title IV, Part A	Title III, Part A	5	\$148,295
Title IV, Part A	Title V, Part B	7	\$200,378
Title II, Part A	Title IV, Part A	2	\$7,999

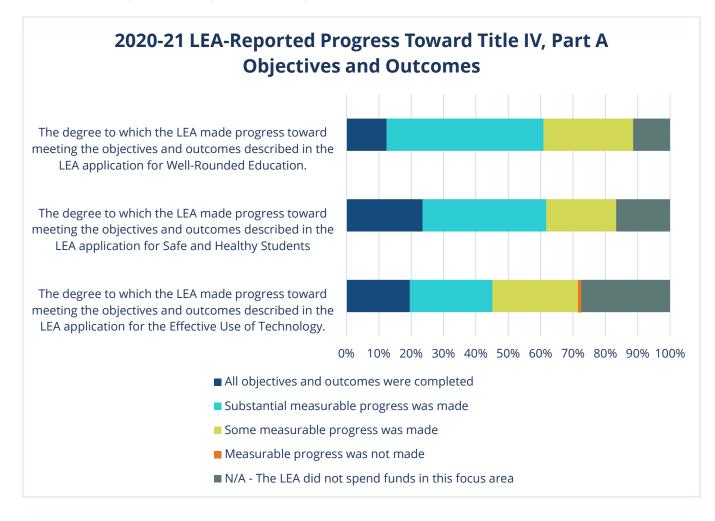
## 2020-21 Title IV, Part A Expenditures

As previously noted, LEAs that receive Title IV, Part A grants may use the funds to carry out activities authorized in three focus areas: Well-Rounded Education, Safe and Healthy Schools, and Effective Use of Technology. The flexibility of Title IV, Part A allows LEAs to concentrate funds in their greatest areas of need as determined by the annual LEA improvement plan. The chart below shows how LEAs expended Title IV funds in 2020-21 (including LEA carryover).



## 2020-21 Title IV, Part A Objectives and Outcomes

ESEA § 4106(e)(1)(E) requires LEAs receiving Title IV, Part A funds to describe the program objectives and intended outcomes for activities under Title IV and how the LEA will periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the activities carried out under this section. In Tennessee, LEAs meet this requirement through the completion of the Title IV, Part A application within the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) in ePlan. Further, ESEA § 4104(a)(2) calls for states to publicly report how funds made available under Title IV are being expended by LEAs, including the degree to which LEAs have made progress toward meeting established objectives and outcomes. To collect this information, a Title IV, Part A Annual Survey was developed and implemented in November 2021. All LEAs who accepted and spent Title IV, Part A funds in 2020-21 were required to complete the survey.



## **Contacts and Resources**

## Contacts

Have questions? Contact your assigned ESEA divisional coordinator or Brinn.Obermiller@tn.gov.

## Title IV, Part A SSAE Resources

- National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments
- <u>Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants Guidance</u>
- Using Federal Education Funds for Student Incentives and Rewards
- <u>Title IV, Part A Questions and Answers</u>
- Overview: Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
- Optional Title IV Activity Evaluation form
- <u>Technical Application Guide: Consolidated Funding Application</u>
- Federal Spending Handbook: Coordinated Spending Guide