



District Consolidation: Federal Programs and State Accountability

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Molly M. Spearman

State Superintendent of Education

Federal Programs

ESSA Grants, Including Title I



Federal Programs Administered by the OFSA

- Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs)
- Title I, Part C (Education of Migratory Children)
- Title I, Part D (Neglected and Delinquent)
- Title II, Part A (Supporting Effective Instruction)
- Title III, Part A (Language Instruction for English Learners)
- Title IV, Part A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment)
- Title V, Part B (Rural Education Achievement Program)
- McKinney-Vento (Education for Homeless Children & Youth)



Periods of Performance

- FY20: July 1, 2019 through September 30, 2022
- FY21: July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022
- FY22: July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023
- FY23: July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024



Legacy District Claiming

- The individual (i.e., legacy) district can make claims for any of the open grants for any expenditures that occurred before June 30, 2022.
- The individual district can make claims in GAPS through August 15, 2022; however, these are only for expenditures that occurred through June 30, 2022.



Deobligation and Re-Issue

- Because individual districts can claim in GAPS through August 15, 2022, deobligation will typically occur shortly after.*
- Any unclaimed funds left by the individual district(s) will be issued to the newly consolidated district.
- Note that FY20 and FY21 expire September 30, 2022; therefore, it will be a tight turnaround. For that reason, legacy districts are encouraged to spend and claim as much as possible from FY20 and FY21 prior to June 30!

*If all claims for the prior fiscal year are completed before August 15, or if the predecessor district has no claims to file on a grant, please contact Betsy Carpentier about possibly receiving a deobligation sooner.



FY22 Special Cases

- In a few instances, a legacy district may choose not to submit a GEMS application for FY22 until after the consolidation is official on July 1.
- For example, districts received FY22 Title V (REAP) allocations in February 2022. Rather than working on and submitting a plan that would only be good for a few months, it may make more sense to wait until after July 1, so that the consolidated district can submit the plan.



Allocations

- Allocations are determined based on Census poverty data and population of children ages 5-17.
- Funding may increase or decrease as a result of consolidation. However, in most instances, there have not been any large swings either way.
- The indirect cost rate will change.
- Because districts rank all schools based on poverty, Title I “served schools” may change based on the new ranking of the consolidated district.



Three Fiscal Requirements

1. The state and the district are maintaining the current level of state and local financial support for education from year to year. (Maintenance of Effort)
2. State and local funding of Title I schools is at least equivalent to the funding provided to non-Title I schools. (Comparability)
3. Services provided with Title I funds are in addition to the level of services that would be provided in the absence of federal funds. (Supplement, Not Supplant)



Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Considerations

- Districts must maintain their fiscal effort with state and local funds in a two-year period either by a per pupil or aggregate expenditure.
- If the district falls below 90% of effort, then all ESSA program allocations are reduced proportionately.
- A waiver by the SCDE may be granted once every five years.
- Title I will use the individual MOE prior to consolidation and establish a baseline MOE after consolidation to determine compliance.



Planning for Consolidation

- Look at poverty rates among the schools to get a preliminary list for Title I, as funding to schools may change.
- Determine point(s) of contact for all ESSA grants, including a Foster Care Point of Contact and a McKinney-Vento Liaison.
- Consolidation may change the new district's eligibility for programs such as Title V (REAP) or change consortiums for programs such as Title III, Part A.



Planning for Consolidation, Cont'd

- As the newly consolidated district is created, the boundaries for inviting private schools to participate may change.
- Be aware that salaries tied to federal funding may also change. For example, an employee that was paid through Title I may need to be paid through a different funding source if the school falls in the ranking.



State Accountability

Accreditation, Monitoring, and Strategic Plans



School Year Prior to Consolidation (2021-22)

- Federal programs monitoring visit for each individual district to ensure all are bringing healthy programs into the consolidation
- Annual updates to District Strategic and School Renewal (DSSR) plans due by April 30th (not required for initial 5-year plans)
- Accreditation ratings issued for individual districts



First School Year in Operation (2022-23)

- Consolidated district is operational as of July 1, 2022*
- No DSSR plan submission required (Note: Other plans may still be required by the SCDE or other entities.)
- No accreditation rating issued for the consolidated district. The district and its schools will be listed in the Annual Accreditation Report but noted as first year in operation.

*It exists as a legal entity from the effective date of the consolidation legislation. July 1 is the date the predecessor districts' students, assets, and liabilities transfer for operations.



Second School Year in Operation (2023-24)

- DSSR initial plans due by April 30th
- District scheduled for a state compliance review; accreditation ratings issued for consolidated district



Third School Year in Operation (2024-25)

- DSSR plans, Update 1, due by April 30th
- Accreditation ratings issued
- Consolidated district scheduled for a federal programs monitoring review



Contact Information

Dr. Sarah Longshore

Director

Office of Federal and State Accountability

803-734-8118

sclongshore@ed.sc.gov

