

Broadband Funding Guide

Department: Department of Education

1	Federal Agency/Bureau	Department of Education
2	Agency Overview	The U.S. Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.
3	Program Name	Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (Title I, Part A)
4	Program Website	https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-formula-grants/school-support-and-accountability/title-i-part-a-program/
5	Program Overview	Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children, particularly low-achieving children, meet challenging state academic standards. Federal funds are currently allocated through four statutory formulas that are based primarily on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state.
6	Program Purpose	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Planning (e.g., feasibility) <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Infrastructure (e.g., construction) <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Adoption <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Skills Training <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Smart Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Financing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: _Minor remodeling, consistent with 34 CFR Part 77, to improve the academic achievement of students served by Title I. </div> </div>
7	Eligible Recipients	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial/Internet Service Providers <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Utilities/Co-ops <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ </div> </div>

8	Agency Contact	<p>Program Contact: Melissa Siry E-mail Address: OESE.TitleI-a@ed.gov Mailing Address: U.S. Department of Education, OESE Office of Academic Improvement Programs 400 Maryland Ave. S.W. LBJ Federal Office Building Washington, DC 20202-6200 Telephone: (202) 260-0926 Toll-Free Telephone: (800) 872-5327 or (800) USA- LEARN</p>
9	Funding Type	Grant
10	FY2018 Funding Amount	\$15,759,802,000
11	FY2019 Funding Amount	\$15,859,802,000
12	FY2020 Funding Amount	\$16,309,802,000
13	Additional Information	<p>First, this is one of a number of Department programs in which broadband may be incorporated into the program only under certain circumstances. Generally, Title I funds can support broadband if the broadband is: (1) Used only by Title I participants (e.g., all students in a Title I schoolwide school or students selected for services in a Title I targeted assistance school); (2) Designed to improve the academic achievement of low-achieving students served by Title I and the use aligns with the needs identified in a Title I school's schoolwide plan or the design of its targeted assistance program; (3) Involves necessary and reasonable costs; and (4) Installed consistent with the definition of "minor remodeling" in 34 CFR Part 77. That definition of minor remodeling means "minor alterations in a previously completed building. The term also includes the extension of utility lines, such as water and electricity, from points beyond the confines of the space in which the minor remodeling is undertaken but within the confines of the previously completed building. The term does not include building construction, structural alterations to buildings, building maintenance, or repairs." In addition, the allowability of costs is always situation specific. For that reason, if a local educational agency is considering using funds under</p>

this program for costs related to broadband access, it must be sure that the use of the funds is, under the specific circumstances of the expenditure, consistent with program requirements, such as those outlined above. For example, there may be case-specific situations in which a Title I schoolwide program school incorporates a mobile hotspot into a Title I program based on the specific needs of its low-achieving students.

Second, the ESEA requires that an LEA receiving Title I funds must continue to use its Title I funds only to supplement, and not supplant, the funds that would be made available from State and local sources in the absence of such Federal funds. In order to meet the supplement not supplant requirements, an LEA must show that its methodology to allocate State and local funds and/or the allocation of resources backed by State and local funds to schools results in each Title I school receiving all of the State and local funds or resources it would otherwise receive if it were not receiving Title I funds. Therefore, an LEA must make State and local resources for technology available to schools without regard to their Title I status.