

THIS IS TITLE IV-A

Student Support and Academic Enrichments Grants



Well-Rounded Provisions

Description

The bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) includes a flexible block grant program under Title IV, Part A (Title IV-A), which is authorized at \$1.6 billion through FY 2020. Title IV-A, Part A authorizes activities in three broad areas:

1. Providing students with a well-rounded education (e.g., college and career counseling, STEM, including computer science, music and the arts, civics, IB/AP)
2. Supporting safe and healthy students (e.g., comprehensive school mental and behavioral health, drug and violence prevention, training on trauma-informed practices, health and physical education) and
3. Supporting the effective use of technology (e.g., professional development, blended learning, and purchase of devices).

Current Funding Level

\$1.21 billion

Supporting Well-Rounded Education

Title IV-A should receive the maximum funding so that all students have access to the variety of educational opportunities - including arts and music, foreign language, social studies and civics, and science and technology - that build the foundation for success in college and career. These disciplines teach valuable skills and have a positive impact on student achievement, but they often end up on the chopping block when districts face tough budget decisions. Full funding of Title IV-A is needed to ensure that all students, including those who attend high-need districts, have opportunities to build the full range of competencies that are required to graduate ready for success in life.

Access to a well-rounded education is vital for student development. Exposure to a variety of educational experiences like STEM activities and career exploration, both in school and during afterschool and summer programming, helps young people develop lifelong relationships with learning and set goals for a bright future. Classes in the creative arts can enhance student learning in other areas, including in language development and math. When teachers integrate social-emotional learning into classroom, they help students develop resilience and skills to achieve their goals. In high school, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes allow students to experience college-level coursework and earn credits before graduation.

If a district receives more than \$30,000, Title IV-A requires that at least 20% of funds are used implement initiatives to support safe and healthy students including but not limited to:

- Arts and music
- STEM
- AP/IB/dual enrollment & early college
- Computer science
- Civics
- Physical education
- Social and emotional learning
- College and career counseling
- CTE
- Afterschool programs

How are districts using the funding?

Of the 652 Districts Surveyed:

STEM: 61.1%

SEL: 52.8%

College & Career Counseling: 36.7%

Music and Arts: 32.6%

AP/IB/ICE: 22.6%

What Educators Are Saying:

"I am so excited about this Title IV-A money. It will allow me to purchase new music for my choral students, acquire some new instruments for my general music students, and invest in curricular materials and workbooks, since none of that is currently provided. Thanks to the Title IV-A grant funding, I'm able to introduce my students to an expanded repertoire of musical styles. Music is a vital part of their well-rounded education, and this money allows me to provide richer learning experiences for my students."

-Lindsey Hayek, Davidson County Schools, NC

"Our students must be taught how important it is that they are physically active and committed to their own well-being. We in ACPS are confident that these programs will combine to move the needle related to the growth of our students' health and physical literacy. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have been able to secure the Title IV part A funds."

-Mike Humphreys, SHAPE America, ACPS instructional specialist for health, physical education and family life education, VA

"The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is utilizing Title IV-A funds for the curation and development of high-quality, standards-aligned Open Educational Resources (OER) for Career Technical Education (CTE). This will provide 50 CTE teachers across career fields with opportunities to curate existing OER instructional materials, create new OER instructional materials, and organize them on NDE's new OER hub to provide free access to all CTE teachers in the state."

-Katie Graham, State CTE Director for Nebraska