

To: Superintendents, Program Administrators, and Treasurers

From: Nathan Williamson; Director of Title Grants and Support

Date: April 24, 2020

Subject: The Blending of Funds for Title I Schoolwide Programs

As part of the rollout of the INtelligrants system, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) will be releasing a pilot program (Pilots) to fully blend federal, State, and local funds in specific Title I schools that operate schoolwide programs. This memorandum overviews the benefits of blending State, local, and federal funds in schoolwide programs for the 2020-2021 school year for the IDOE and Pilots. Interested LEAs should watch this informational webinar regarding the [Blending of Funds](#).

Once federal funds are blended, the funds lose their identity and are no longer limited to the federal requirements for the individual programs as long as the funds meet the intents and purposes of the original grants. The LEA will not have to track spending by each grant or have to follow EDGAR (federal fiscal rules) as the funding will be combined into one flexible source. Blended funds may be spent on any activity in the approved schoolwide plan that meets the intent and purpose of each contributing program to ensure that the needs of the intended beneficiaries are met. A schoolwide program must maintain records that demonstrate that the schoolwide program as a whole addresses the intent and purposes of each of the federal education programs whose funds were blended to support it. Title I schoolwide schools will have to update their schoolwide plans when blending the federal funds to demonstrate the requirements and to provide evidence of usage to IDOE and the community.

IDOE and the Pilots will engage in quarterly monitoring on blended schoolwide programs. Monitoring will focus on any issues the Pilots or their schoolwide schools have faced in implementing the programs. Monitoring may include expenditure review, formal and informal assessments to make sure targeted needs are being met, and interviews with LEA and school-level personnel. Technical assistance will be given by the IDOE throughout the course of the pilot.

Funds Available for Blending:

Federal education grants are eligible for blending with both state and local funds. **Special allotments may NOT be blended in a schoolwide blended fund;** special education, bilingual education, and career and technology allotments.

- Title I
- Title II
- Title III
- Title IV
- Rural and Low Income Schools
- Immigrant Influx

If your LEA is interested in becoming a Pilot to fully blend funds for a Title I Schoolwide Program please complete the [Request to Participate](#) by July 31, 2020.

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