

Florida No Child Left Behind

The Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law designates some Title I schools as Title I School Improvement schools that must offer public school choice. Title I schools that haven't met state target goals for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two or more years in the same subject (reading/language arts or math) enter Title I School Improvement. In the first year of Title I School Improvement, a school must offer public school choice unless the school is in an SES pilot district (The United States Department of Education has approved Florida to participate in the pilot). When public school choice is offered, all parents in the school have the option of transferring their children to another public school designated by the district. Schools entering Title I School Improvement in SES pilot districts offer free tutoring, or supplemental educational services (SES), to economically disadvantaged students as their first year option. For schools in SES pilot districts, the first year/public school choice and second year/SES options are reversed.

WHAT IS ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP)?

Through statewide testing, AYP measures the yearly progress of different groups of students toward achieving state academic standards in reading/language arts and math. All groups of students are expected to meet the same target goals each year. Under NCLB, all students are expected to be proficient in reading/language arts and math by 2013-14. More detailed information about AYP in Florida is available on the DOE website at www.fldoe.org.

HOW DOES A SCHOOL MAKE AYP?

For a school to make AYP, each student group in the tested grades must meet proficiency targets in reading/language arts and math and each student group must have at least a 95% participation rate in the assessments for both subjects. This represents four targets (proficiency and participation in reading/language arts and math assessments) for each student group. The student groups are: 1) the school as a whole (all students); 2) White; 3) Black; 4) Hispanic; 5) Native American; 6) Asian; 7) Multiracial; 8) economically disadvantaged students (students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch); 9) limited English proficient students; and 10) students with disabilities. Each student is represented in at least two groups – the school as a whole and her/his racial group. Detailed school AYP reports on the Web at <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/>.

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| 1 year of not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in mathematics or reading/language arts, | the school addresses challenge areas, | no sanctions under NCLB. |
| 2 consecutive years of not making AYP in the same subject, | the school enters Year 1 of Title I School Improvement at the beginning of the next school year | supplemental educational services to all eligible students. |
| 3 years of not making AYP in the same subject, | the school enters Year 2 of Title I School Improvement at the beginning of the next school year | public school choice and supplemental educational services to all eligible students. |
| 4 years of not making AYP in the same subject, | the school enters Year 3 of Title I School Improvement at the beginning of the next school year | public school choice and supplemental educational services to all eligible students. |
| 5 years of not making AYP in the same subject, | the school enters Year 4 of Title I School Improvement at the beginning of the next school year | public school choice and supplemental educational services to all eligible students. |
| 6 years of not making AYP in the same subject, | the school enters Year 5 of Title I School Improvement at the beginning of the next school year | public school choice and supplemental educational services to all eligible students. |

Transfer Options Under NCLB

HOW LONG MUST TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SCHOOLS OFFER TRANSFER OPTIONS?

Unless the school is in an SES pilot district, a Title I School Improvement school must offer public school choice until it makes AYP in the subject that first identified it for two years in a row. Public school choice must be offered in addition to other obligations that the school must fulfill if it remains in Title I School Improvement year after year. It is possible for a school to exit Title I School Improvement in one subject in the same year that it enters for another subject. In that case, the school must continue to offer public school choice, since that is the first-year sanction. An SES pilot district school entering Title I School Improvement offers free tutoring (supplemental educational services or SES) to economically disadvantaged students in the first and subsequent years that it remains in Improvement.

WHAT SCHOOLS CAN SERVE AS TRANSFER OPTIONS?

Districts determine which schools are designated as transfer options. Schools in Title I School Improvement cannot be transfer options. There may be certain instances when there are no school transfer choices available.

HOW LONG ARE STUDENTS ALLOWED TO ATTEND THE TRANSFER OPTION, OR CHOICE SCHOOL?

A student who transfers to a choice school can remain at that school until he or she has completed the highest grade in the school. However, the school district is not obligated to provide transportation for the student after the end of the school year in which the original school is no longer identified for Title I School Improvement. Transportation, or compensation for transportation, must be offered up until that point.

Free Tutoring, or Supplemental Educational Services

WHAT ARE SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES?

According to the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, supplemental educational services are free tutoring and other supplemental academic enrichment services that are in addition to instruction provided during the school day. These services must be of high quality, research based, and specifically designed to increase a student's academic achievement toward proficiency in meeting the state's achievement standards.

WHEN MUST TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SCHOOLS OFFER SES?

Title I public schools that fail to meet adequate yearly progress toward meeting state academic standards for two or more consecutive years must offer supplemental educational services to eligible students.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SES?

Eligible students are all students from low-income families who attend Title I schools that are in their second year of school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring. If the funds are insufficient to provide supplemental educational services to all eligible students whose parents request services, priority must be given to providing services to the lowest-achieving eligible students. The school district must use objective criteria to determine the lowest-achieving students. For example, the school district might focus services on the lowest-achieving eligible students in the subject area (reading or mathematics) that caused the school to be identified as in need of improvement.

HOW LONG MUST SES BE OFFERED TO STUDENTS?

The school district must provide supplemental educational services to students until the end of the school year in which such services were first received. The district is required to offer services to eligible students on an annual basis until the Title I school in which the student is enrolled makes adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years.

CAN STUDENTS AT TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SCHOOLS TRANSFER TO A PUBLIC SCHOOL OF CHOICE AND RECEIVE FREE TUTORING SERVICES?

No. When both the public school choice and supplemental educational services options are available, parents may choose the transfer option or tutoring services, but not both.

WHO PROVIDES THE FREE TUTORING SERVICES?

Service providers can be public, private, non-profit or for-profit organizations approved by the Florida Department of Education. The services must be of high quality, research-based and consistent with the instructional program of the school district and with the state standards. Parents of eligible students choose a provider from the state-approved list of providers for their district. Parents may request assistance from their school district in selecting a provider. A list of providers is available on the web at <http://data.fldoe.org/ses/search/>.

Please access our website at <http://www.fldoe.org/flbpso/> for more information about NCLB School Choice or contact program staff in the Bureau of Federal Educational Programs, Office of Public School Options, at (850) 245-0479 or via email at bpsocontacts@fldoe.org if you have additional questions.

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