



Title IV, Part A & Fine Arts

New Funding: Title IV, Part A

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains specific language that allows school districts to utilize Student Support and Academic Enrichment Funds (Title IV, Part A) for programs and activities that support student access to a well-rounded education. Funds are distributed annually to each district through funding formula, based on funding allocations to districts from Title I, Part A, Subpart 2. Funds are spent at the district level, not school site level. Title IV, Part A funds can be used for activities that support all students in all schools. Schools and students do not need to be Title I eligible to receive services or benefit from activities.

Fine Arts

Fine arts classes are an essential part of a student's well-rounded education at both the state and federal levels. Oklahoma defines the arts as the unique four disciplines of dance, drama/theatre, music, and visual arts. School districts may use Title IV, Part A funds to implement or expand programs and activities that use the arts as tools to support student success. Title IV, Part A funds cannot supplant current fine arts funding, but may be used to supplement funding.

Educators and community stakeholders who are interested in how to access Title IV, Part A for the arts should begin by contacting the individual in the school district with responsibility for administering federal programs.

Examples of Potential Uses of Title IV, Part A Funding for the Arts

- Purchase curriculum to support the arts.
- Hire new staff (such as a percussion specialist, rehearsal accompanist, stage crew) or dedicate additional time for existing staff.
- Add new enrichment activities – by hiring additional staff and purchasing supplies – as part of expanded learning opportunities.
- Add new subjects such as elementary art, class piano, guitar, or rock band.
- Contract with outside providers to bring training to the district.
- Provide registration for student competitions.
- Purchase sheet music, costumes, and copyright permissions.
- Pay the registration, travel costs, and/or substitute reimbursement for staff to attend content-specific professional learning activities.
- Improve performance spaces with new lighting, technology, rigging, etc.
- Contract with an arts organization to provide student learning opportunities.
- Pay for fine arts field trips.

Title IV, Part A and Programs of Excellence

Oklahoma school districts are encouraged to look at the programs of excellence fine arts rubric as they consider where to use their funds within their fine arts departments. Certain rubric criteria could be addressed by additional funding through Title IV, Part A. The fine arts rubric is publicly available on the OSDE accountability dashboard. <https://sde.ok.gov/championexcellence>

Title IV, Part A General Information

- Title IV, Part A is an entitlement awarded to districts.
- Districts MUST complete a needs assessment by committee of diverse community representatives.
- Funds can supplement NOT supplant current funding.
- LEAs who receive \$30,000 or more MUST spend at least 20% on well-rounded educational opportunities and at least 20% to support safe and healthy students. A portion of funds may be spent on technology, however, technology infrastructure purchases are subject to 15% cap on the portion of funds allocated.
 - Exceptions apply to districts receiving less than \$30,000. Districts should view their Funding Summary within the Grants Management System (GMS) to determine their Title IV, Part A allocation. LEAs that receive an allocation of less than \$30,000 are not required to address multiple content areas.

Questions to consider:

- Who leads the needs assessment process for the district? Who leads the development of the application to the state?
- What is the process for conducting the needs assessment? How are the arts included in the needs assessment?
- What arts-related tools exist for the needs assessment in my district? (Consult the Oklahoma Programs of Excellence [rubric](#). Also, the Opportunity to Learn standards for dance, drama, music, and visual art could be useful tools).
- How much funding has the district received?
- What are the priorities identified by the needs assessment?
- Is there evidence of the role the arts can play in addressing the priorities of the district?

OSDE Title IV, Part A Guidance

https://sde.ok.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/TitleIVA_Guidance_August_2018_0.pdf

Questions? Contact:

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