



FEDERAL PROGRAMS MESSENGER

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

AUGUST • 2015



A New School Year

The 2015-2016 school year is currently underway for many of Oklahoma's Local Education Agencies (LEAs). Teachers, students, and parents are enthusiastic about new beginnings and looking forward to a year of discovery learning, meeting new friends, and new adventures. The Office of Federal Programs at the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) is excited about the new school year and the available opportunities for the educational communities.

Federal dollars create the leverage for schools to help all students, especially those students that may need additional academic support.

The Office of Federal Programs includes, Title I, Part A, C & D, Title II, Part A & B, Title III, Part C, Title VI, Part B, and Title X, Part C. Please refer to the [OSDE website](#) for extensive clarification for the intent and purpose of each federal program.

The largest of the federal grant programs is Title I, Part A. The grant is designed for schools to supplement the core curriculum, primarily in reading, language arts, and math. The grant has two specific programs that schools may participate in to maximize the core curriculum. A school may operate as *Targeted Assistance*, if the poverty level is below 40%. In this program, the students that are most at risk academically will receive supplemental services. The *Schoolwide* program is another option where all students are considered Title I, if the poverty level is 40% or above, and where all students benefit from programs and activities supported with federal dollars. However, it must be emphasized the need of those students who are low performing receive extensive academic reinforcement.

One of the most important components to any Title I program is to ensure that Title I students are being served by "highly qualified" teachers. Oklahoma requires all teachers to be certified in the area or subject being taught.

At the beginning of the school year, there are important time-lines and required procedures that must be considered when using federal funds.

CALENDAR

- **August 4 Title III A Webinar (1) – WIDA Access Placement Test [10:00–11:00 AM] Basement, Suite B-10**
- **August 5 GMS Webinar [10:00–11:00 AM] Basement, Suite B-10**
- **August 12 McKinney-Vento Webinar (1) – Understanding McKinney Vento Definitions Of Homeless) [1:30–2:30 PM] Basement, Suite B-10**
- **August 18–19 – FY2016 Consolidated Monitoring District Training @ Francis Tuttle Rockwell (Only open to FY16 Monitored LEAs)**
- **August 19 Title I C Webinar (2) – Grant Application [1:30–2:30 PM] Basement, Suite B-10**
- **August 24 & 27 – FY2016 Consolidated Application District Training (Location TBD)**
- **August 26 Title III A Webinar (2) – Immigrant And LEP Applications [10:00–11:00 AM] Basement, Suite B-10**
- **August 26 McKinney-Vento Webinar (2) – Title X C Applications For The New Grant Cycle [1:30–2:30 PM] Basement, Suite B-10**

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Q. Does the federal law provide a timeline for developing and implementing the changes in the Uniform Grants Guidance?

A. The United States Department of Education has granted a one-year grace period for local educational agencies (LEAs) to develop policies and procedures for the new procurement regulations. However, the LEAs must document in their written internal procurement procedures and policies they have chosen to operate under the one-year grace period.

New School Year

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- **Right to know requests:**
 - 1) Parents may request teacher and paraprofessional qualifications and 2) Parents are to be notified if their child is assigned to a teacher that is not highly qualified and how the teacher is working to become highly qualified
- **Annual Title I parent meeting:**
 - 1) Inform parents of the Title I school plan (Targeted or Schoolwide).
 - 2) A sign-in sheet and agenda is required documentation.
- **School-parent compact:**
 - 1) Tailored for the specific site.
 - 2) This document outlines the responsibilities of the school and parent in educating students.
- **Parent Policy:**

Written parental policies including strategies and plans for parent involvement.
- **Schools annual report card:**

Includes assessment data for student achievement, graduation rates and other data elements.
- **Complaint Procedures:**

A written complaint procedure to resolve issues of violations of Title I statues and regulations.
- **Student assessment reports:**

Provide individual student achievement on academic assessment aligned with state standards.

*Notice and information provided to parents under this paragraph shall be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that the parents can understand.

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FEDERAL UPDATE

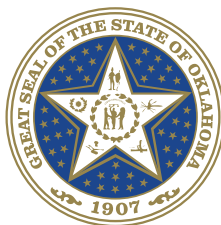
The Uniform Grants Guidance (UGG) will have a significant impact on direct grants and federal grants. The UGG replaces a set of Office Management and Budget circulars and specific sections of EDGAR. The intent and purpose of the changes is an effort to reform federal administrative and grant management rules and emphasizes student performance results. The updated rules are now located in the [Code of Federal Regulations](#) (2 CFR Part 200).

Overviews of areas that have significant change are provided for you below:

- Subpart A – Acronyms and Definitions (200.0 – 200.99)
- Subpart B – General Provisions (200.100 – 200.113)
- Subpart C – Pre-Federal Award Requirements and Contents of Federal Awards (200.200 – 200.212)
- Subpart E – Cost Principles (200.400-200.475)
- Subpart F – Audit Requirements (200.500-200.520)

As you review each Subpart, paying careful attention to procurement, internal controls, inventory management, computing devices, compensation for personal services, single audits, certifications and other areas regarding programmatic, fiscal, and grants management will drive many changes in district policies. In the UGG, the familiar language of “shall” has been replaced with “must.” This places an emphasis on a requirement. The language “should” denotes best practice.

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OKLAHOMA
STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

— JOY HOFMEISTER —
STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION