Nonpublic School Carryover

In general, to ensure that equitable services are provided in a timely manner, an LEA must obligate the funds allocated for equitable services under all applicable programs in the year for which they are appropriated. [ESSA Sections 1117(a)(4)(B) and 8501(a)(4)(B)]. There may be extenuating circumstances, however, in which an LEA is unable to obligate all funds within this time frame in a responsible manner. Under these extenuating circumstances, the funds may remain available for the provision of equitable services under the respective program(s) during the subsequent school year. In determining how such carryover funds will be used, the LEA must consult with
appropriate nonpublic school officials. [Elementary and Secondary Education Act Sections (ESEA) 1117(b) and 8501(c)].

**Title IA** - If there were no extenuating circumstances, carryover would go to the Nonpublic share of funds.

**Title IC, Title IIA, Title IIIA, Title IVA** - If there were no extenuating circumstances, carryover would go to the LEA share of funds.

**In both,** if there were extenuating circumstances, the carryover would go back to the nonpublic school that the carryover initially came from.

Please feel free to contact the Ombudsman Program Specialist, Naomi Ward, (405)-522-3218, with any questions or concerns.

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**Nonpublic School Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **What program(s) can nonpublic schools participate in?**

   The nonpublic school has the opportunity to participate in the following programs through the Office of Federal Program:

   a. **Title I, Part A** - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

   b. **Title I, Part C** - Education of Migratory Children

   c. **Title II, Part A** - Preparing, Training and Recruiting High-Quality Teachers, Principals and Other School Leaders

   d. **Title III, Part A** - Language Instruction for English Learner and Immigrant Students

   e. **Title IV, Part A** - Student Support and Academic Enrichment

   f. **Title IV, Part B** - 21st Century Community Learning Centers

2. **What is consultation?**

   Consultation between LEAs and nonpublic school officials should be timely, meaningful and continue throughout the school year. Open discussion should be conducted between the LEA and the nonpublic school official involving key issues that affect the ability of eligible nonpublic school students to participate in receiving equitable services. Successful consultation should establish a positive and productive working relationship and ensure that services are provided to nonpublic school students
effectively and meets the needs of the students and teachers. Final decisions should be made by the LEA after discussing key issues relating to the provision of services.

Nonpublic School officials should provide the LEA with list of addresses and grades of low-income families (if participating in Title I), program ideas and suggestions, etc.

It is the responsibility of the LEA to reach out to nonpublic school officials and initiate the consultation process.

3. How do I register my nonpublic school with the Oklahoma State Department of Education?

In order to register with the Oklahoma State Department of Education and to obtain a ‘Nonpublic School County Code’, the nonpublic school would need to contact the Ombudsman in the Office of Federal Programs. The Ombudsman will collect information and submit the request for registration. Once a nonpublic school county code has been assigned and the nonpublic school is registered, the Ombudsman will contact the nonpublic school and provide the nonpublic school county code.

Foster Care Transportation

Some foster care children will need transportation provided at an additional cost. Some examples of transportation with associated costs are:

- A foster parent, relative or other adult provides transportation but needs reimbursement for mileage;
- An agency provides the youth or caretaker with bus passes or other public transportation vouchers;
- An agency contracts with a private transportation company to provide a bus/van/car;

USDE Guidelines:

Even if an LEA doesn’t transport other students, it must ensure that transportation is provided to children in foster care.

Transportation must be provided in a “cost-effective” manner so low-cost/no-cost options should be explored:

- Pre-existing bus stops or public transportation
- Foster parents, relative or other adult provides transportation
- Child is eligible for transportation by other programs (e.g. IDEA)
“Additional costs” represent the difference between what an LEA would normally spend on transportation to the child’s assigned school and the cost of transportation to the school of origin. Examples of additional costs are:

- An LEA provides the youth or caretaker with bus passes or other public transportation vouchers;
- An agency contracts with a private transportation company to provide a bus/van/car;
- A school district reroutes, or adds a bus to its fleet, to accommodate the transportation needs of children in foster care.

Title I is an allowable funding source, although funds reserved for comparable services for homeless children and youth may not be used for transportation of foster care children.

Please feel free to contact the State Foster Care contact, Naomi Ward, (405)-522-3218, with any questions or concerns.

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