UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202-6132

DEC 22 2011

MEMORANDUM TO TITLE I STATE DIRECTORS

Subject: Updated 2010 Census Data Used for Allocating Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 (School Year 2012-13) Title I, Part A Funds to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)

Please find attached updated 2010 population and poverty estimates for the local educational agencies (LEAs) in your State. The Census Bureau released these data on November 29, 2011. These data are also available at http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/index.html. I am providing these data for two reasons: (1) to enable your State to review these data and verify the accuracy of the school district boundary survey on which these data are based; and (2) to enable you to estimate your LEAs' eligibility for, and allocation of, Title I, Part A funds. We will use these data to calculate school year (SY) 2012-13 allocations.

Review of estimated Census data: These estimates are based on a statistical model that incorporates information from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, administrative records taken from Federal income tax returns and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the most recent decennial Census, updates to population estimates that the Census Bureau has completed since 2000, data on Supplemental Security Income recipients, and economic data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The Census Bureau has established a 90-day period for reviewing these data and requests that corrections be submitted in cases where non-statistical errors can be documented. Such errors generally include errors that the Census Bureau may have made in (1) processing input data or running the estimation models and (2) processing information that defines a school district's geographic boundaries.

This review period ends on February 27, 2012. If, based on the two factors outlined in the previous paragraph, you believe that the Census estimates are incorrect, you or an LEA official may contact the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Branch at the Census Bureau for further information about how to challenge these estimates. To obtain information on the process you need to follow in order to challenge these data, please contact the Census SAIPE Branch at:

(301) 763-3193
E-mail: hhes.saipe@census.gov

When sending an e-mail, please include your name, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address, and organization affiliation. For more information and guidance concerning the Census Bureau's challenge procedures, please see the following web site:

http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/contact/challenges.html

For more information about the data sources and the methodology used to prepare these data, please see the frequently asked questions fact sheet prepared by the Census Bureau available at:

http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/about/faq.html

Note that the list of school districts used for the 2010 estimates is based on the SY 2009-10 school district boundary survey conducted by the Census Bureau with the help of the district mapping coordinator in your State. Also, the school districts on this list include only "regular" school districts that have geographic boundaries. The

list does not include, for example, special school districts, such as charter schools, that a State recognizes as LEAs, as well as regional vocational education districts. Rather than "correcting" for such LEA boundary data, States will need to adjust the Title I, Part A LEA allocations that the U.S. Department of Education (ED) determines in order to accommodate new or special LEAs not included on the Census Bureau's SY 2009-10 list.

Estimating LEAs' eligibility and allocations: The data attached to this memorandum—the estimated number of related children ages 5-17 in families in poverty, the estimated total school-age population, and the estimated total resident population for each LEA—should also enable you to determine which LEAs on this list are potentially eligible for funds under the Basic, Concentration, Targeted, and Education Finance Incentive Grants allocation formulas.[1] Please bear in mind that the Census poverty data do not include the other children counted in the formula, such as foster and neglected children. This information, in combination with the 85, 90, and 95 percent hold-harmless guarantee provided in the Title I statute, will help you determine which LEAs are potentially eligible and help eligible LEAs begin planning for the coming school year since they would at least know that their minimum amount would be based on their prior year's allocation from funds made available under the FY 2011 appropriation. We expect to release preliminary estimates of SY 2012-13 LEA allocations based on the updated 2010 census data next year when we have a final FY 2012 appropriation.

The information also shows which LEAs in your State have a total resident population of fewer than 20,000. This will enable you to begin exploring whether your State wishes to use the flexibility provided in the Title I statute to redistribute LEA allocations determined by ED for those districts with a resident population under 20,000 using alternative poverty data. ED must approve any alternative poverty data that a State chooses to use for this purpose. If ED has already approved your use of alternative poverty data, you do not need to resubmit your request.

If you have questions about SY 2012-13 allocation issues, please contact Paul S. (Sandy) Brown on my staff. He can be reached at (202) 260-0976 (e-mail: paul.brown@ed.gov).

Patricia A. McKee
Acting Director
Student Achievement and School
Accountability Programs

Attachments

cc: Chief State School Officers

[1] To be eligible for a Basic Grant, an LEA must have at least 10 children counted under the Title I formula **and** the number of formula children must be greater than two percent of the LEA's school-age population. To be eligible for a Concentration Grant, an LEA must generally have more than 6,500 formula children **or** the number of formula children must exceed 15 percent of the LEA's school-age population. To qualify for Targeted and Education Finance Incentive Grants, an LEA must have at least 10 formula children **and** that number must be at least 5 percent of its school-age population.