

Arizona Department of Education

Educator & School Excellence Unit

Equitable access to an excellent education for all students

ESE Policy Bulletin

Ranking Sites for the Purpose of Title-I School Eligibility

Category: Title I Compliance

Date: 3/11/2022

Effective: FY23 ESEA Consolidated Grant Applications

Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides federal dollars to schools to help students at risk of not meeting the Arizona K-12 Academic Standards. Current appropriations do not provide enough money to serve all eligible children; therefore, the intent of the law is to concentrate the funds in schools with the highest percentages of poverty and to provide sufficient funds to make a difference in the academic performance of these students. The table on the next page is designed to assist LEAs in their process of ranking schools to be served with Title-I funds based on their selected poverty measure.

Summary:

The Educator and School Excellence Unit strives to support our LEAs as they complete their ESEA Consolidated Grant application. It is vital that the Title-I School Eligibility page within that application is both accurate and complete. This policy bulletin is both a reminder of applicable statute as well as updated to reflect recent non-regulatory guidance from US Ed regarding within-district allocations for Title I-A.

Reference < <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2022/02/Within-district-allocations-FINAL.pdf> >

Reference < [Sec.1113 of 20 USC § 6313: Eligible School Attendance Areas](#) >





Ranking Method Name	Rank Order by Poverty Rate?	What Schools <i>MUST</i> be served by Title-I	What Schools <i>MAY</i> be served by Title-I	Other LEA Considerations
<i>LEA K-12 Enrollment is less than 1,000 total students</i>	Rank order by poverty rate Does Not apply	Not Applicable	Any schools operated by the LEA may be served	LEA K-12 enrollment count must be less than 1,000 students, including AOI
<i>LEA operates one school per grade span or single site</i>	Rank order by poverty rate Does Not apply	Not Applicable	Any schools operated by the LEA may be served	LEA must have no more than one school in each grade span with NO OVERLAPPING grades amongst sites in the LEA
<i>Poverty Rate for LEA as a whole</i>	Rank order by poverty rate APPLIES	All schools whose poverty rate is above 75%*	Any schools whose poverty rate is above the poverty rate across the LEA	Schools must be served in rank order** by poverty rate district wide, regardless of grade span
<i>35% Rule Across the LEA</i>	Rank order by poverty rate APPLIES	All schools whose poverty rate is above 75%*	Any schools whose poverty rate is above 35%	Schools must be served in rank order** by poverty rate district wide, regardless of grade span
<i>Grade Span Grouping Using Poverty Rate for LEA as a whole</i>	Rank order by poverty rate APPLIES	All schools whose poverty rate is above 75% (regardless of grade span(s))*	Any schools within the prioritized grade span(s) whose poverty rate is above the poverty rate across the LEA	Schools must be served in rank order** by poverty rate within the prioritized grade span(s)
<i>Grade Span Grouping Using Poverty Rate for Prioritized Grade Span(s)</i>	Rank order by poverty rate APPLIES	All schools whose poverty rate is above 75% (regardless of grade span(s))*	Any schools within the prioritized grade span(s) whose poverty rate is above the poverty rate across applicable grade span(s)	Schools must be served in rank order** within the prioritized grade span(s)
<i>Grade Span Grouping and the 35% rule</i>	Rank order by poverty rate APPLIES	All schools whose poverty rate is above 75% (regardless of grade span(s))*	Any schools within the prioritized grade span(s) whose poverty rate is above 35%	Schools must be served in rank order** within the prioritized grade span(s)

*LEAs have the option to include high schools above 50% poverty rate in this must serve group if they so choose.

**Served in rank order: Providing funds for a site via the PPA process. Sites must receive a PPA of the same amount or more as those ranked below them.

Note: A school site which is no longer eligible for Title I funds but was both eligible and served in the prior year may elect to use the Grandfather Clause to be served one additional year. It must still be ranked according to the method chosen by the LEA.