



COLORADO

Department of Education

To: Title I Directors
From: Patrick Chapman, Executive Director, Federal Programs Unit
Date: October 24, 2016
Re: Comparability 2016-17

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), states that the purpose of Title I, Part A is to “provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps.” The requirement that Title I, Part A funds supplement, and not supplant, state and local funds is a longstanding provision of ESEA, intended to ensure that federal funds provide additional educational resources that students and teachers in high-poverty schools need to succeed. Consequently, if Title I schools do not receive their fair share of state and local dollars before Title I dollars are added, Title I, Part A funds do not serve their intended purpose of providing additional educational resources needed to serve disadvantaged students.

We are approaching the time for the 2016-17 Comparability data collection. During 2016-17, as we await the finalization of USDE regulations and develop systems to comply with ESSA, CDE will not change the comparability data collection system or process. However, as Colorado develops its plan to implement ESSA in 2017-18, we are considering ways to make the comparability collection and process more meaningful for schools and districts and allow CDE to better support schools at risk for not being comparable. We welcome your ideas and feedback. Please think about the process as we go through the 2016-17 cycle and consider partnering with us to improve comparability under the new ESSA statute.

Included in this memo is a preliminary list of districts that, most likely, will need to demonstrate comparability in 2016-17. This list was compiled without benefit of enrollment numbers and could change as enrollment numbers become available and/or districts make changes to their Title I school assignments. For example, districts with fewer than 1,000 students do not have to demonstrate comparability, nor do districts with only one school per grade span even if that school receives Title IA funds. Title I schools with 100 or fewer students do not have to be comparable, although their data are used in overall calculations.

You are being sent this memo even if your district is not currently required to conduct comparability. We want to keep you in the loop in case your schools’ Title I status changes and you are required to calculate comparability in 2016-17 or the future.

A first step in this process is for each superintendent to authorize a Comparability Respondent. Respondents from previous years are still in the system and do not need to be re-authorized. However,

if you do not already have a respondent or you need to assign a new one, complete and return the attached form.

CDE has scheduled the following training webinars for respondents and others whose help will be needed to compile the data. Please pass along this information to everyone in your district who might be involved in comparability data collection and reporting and encourage them to attend one of these Comparability 2016-17 sessions, as you want to have sufficient numbers of people trained for how the system works. All three webinars will cover the same information and use the same phone number (1-866-684-8605):

Wednesday, November 9th: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/r3jb778uazi/>
Tuesday, November 15th: 11:00 – noon <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/r2wz9efgqer/>
Tuesday, November 15th: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/r1m6tfrlxz2/>

CDE appreciates your time and attention to the comparability data collection. For more information about comparability and access to the powerpoint used for the 2015-16 trainings, visit the CDE website at: http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/ti/a_comp. Should you have any questions or need further assistance with the online comparability system, alternative calculators, or calculation processes, please contact Donna Morganstern at 303-866-6209 (morganstern_d@cde.state.co.us). If you have program-related questions or are interested in helping CDE improve comparability under ESSA, please contact Brad Bylsma (bylsma_b@cde.state.co.us).

Districts that most likely will have to do Comparability for 2016-17			
0010	MAPLETON 1	1350	EAST GRAND 2
0020	ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	1360	GUNNISON WATERSHED RE1J
0030	ADAMS COUNTY 14	1390	HUERFANO RE-1
0040	SCHOOL DISTRICT 27J	1420	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1
0070	WESTMINSTER 50	1520	DURANGO 9-R
0100	ALAMOSA RE-11J	1550	POUDRE R-1
0120	ENGLEWOOD 1	1560	THOMPSON R2-J
0123	SHERIDAN 2	1570	PARK (ESTES PARK) R-3
0130	CHERRY CREEK 5	1828	VALLEY RE-1
0140	LITTLETON 6	2000	MESA COUNTY VALLEY 51
0180	ADAMS-ARAPAHOE 28J	2020	MOFFAT COUNTY RE:NO 1
0190	BYERS 32J	2035	MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ RE-1
0260	VILAS RE-5	2180	MONTROSE COUNTY RE-1J
0290	LAS ANIMAS RE-1	2190	WEST END RE-2
0470	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	2405	FORT MORGAN RE-3
0480	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	2610	PARK COUNTY RE-2
0540	CLEAR CREEK RE-1	2620	HOLYOKE RE-1J
0550	NORTH CONEJOS RE-1J	2640	ASPEN 1
0870	DELTA COUNTY 50(J)	2660	LAMAR RE-2
0880	DENVER COUNTY 1	2690	PUEBLO CITY 60
0890	DOLORES COUNTY RE NO.2	2700	PUEBLO COUNTY 70
0900	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	2740	MONTE VISTA C-8
0910	EAGLE COUNTY RE 50	2770	STEAMBOAT SPRINGS RE-2
0920	ELIZABETH C-1	2800	MOFFAT 2
0980	HARRISON 2	3000	SUMMIT RE-1
0990	WIDEFIELD 3	3020	WOODLAND PARK RE-2
1000	FOUNTAIN 8	3080	WELD COUNTY RE-1
1010	COLORADO SPRINGS 11	3085	EATON RE-2
1020	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN 12	3090	KEENESBURG RE-3(J)
1030	MANITOU SPRINGS 14	3100	WINDSOR RE-4
1040	ACADEMY 20	3110	JOHNSTOWN-MILLIKEN RE-5J
1080	LEWIS-PALMER 38	3120	GREELEY 6
1110	FALCON 49	3140	WELD COUNTY S/D RE-8
1120	EDISON 54 JT	8001	CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE
1140	CANON CITY RE-1		

1150	FREMONT RE-2
1180	ROARING FORK RE-1
1195	GARFIELD RE-2