

Title I Office Hours

Thursday, March 15, 2012

Supplemental Education Support
Waiver Ramifications

ESEA Flexibility Waiver

- USDE solicited states to submit waivers to provisions outlined in ESEA.
- Colorado applied for this flexibility and was granted this in February.
- Federal Title IA accountability is now more aligned with the state's accountability system.

AYP

- Will schools and districts receive AYP determinations based on their 2011-12 data?

No. AYP was calculated for the last time in 2011, based on 2010-11 data. The waiver replaces AYP with the school and district performance frameworks.

AYP

- Do AYP results have consequences for schools in the 2012-13 school year?

No. AYP was calculated for the last time in 2011, based on 2010-11 data. The waiver replaces AYP with the accountability outlined in the waiver, specifically performance on the state's own accountability system (school and district performance frameworks), the consequences associated with the state system and additional choice and SES requirements.

Performance Frameworks

- Did the USDE require any changes to the performance frameworks?

No other changes, in addition to Colorado's addition of disaggregated graduation rate and CELApro growth data, were required. However, USDE highly valued the adequate growth components and disaggregations within the performance frameworks. These components were crucial to approval. CDE had to meet other related data reporting and analysis components of the application.

Performance Frameworks

- What is the timeline for implementing the changes into the performance frameworks, specifically the addition of CELApro growth and disaggregated graduation rates?

The new indicators included in the waiver approval will be included in the state performance framework results to be released in August 2012.

Performance Frameworks

- What is the plan for appeals? Will appeals follow the same process as the currently stated appeals of SPF plan type?

Yes, the request to reconsider process will continue to be implemented as it has been for the performance frameworks. The system of appeals for AYP went away with AYP calculations.

Performance Frameworks

- Will we have an opportunity to view SPFs for last year with the new changes in calculation?

CDE is planning towards a preliminary release of last year's results that will allow districts to see their ratings with the new indicators in the state performance framework in June 2012.

Performance Frameworks

- Are there any plans to split out the performance frameworks ratings by reading and math?

Not at this time. The performance frameworks provide an overall rating, based on a combination of many factors. Schools, districts and the public can analyze the data in the reports to determine content area strengths and weaknesses.

AMOs

- What are AMOs?

AMOs are targets for achievement results (the percent of student proficient or advanced), as required by the USDE through the waiver process.

AMOs

- Are the AMOs based on the 2009-2010 data or 2010-2011? The waiver says 2010.

AMOs are based on the 2009-2010 academic year, which was also the baseline year for the academic achievement cut scores on the state performance frameworks.

AMOs

- How does the federal government hold schools and districts accountable for AMOs based on the waiver?

The AMOs are primarily aspirational targets now that AYP is no longer calculated. AMOs are used to identify additional Title IA schools for support.

AMOs

- How were AMOs set?

The AMOs build upon the cut-points in the school and district performance frameworks and create annual AMOs for proficiency. The 2011-12 AMOs will be the current requirements for earning a *meets* rating in the academic achievement section of the one-year School Performance Frameworks. The *meets* cut-point is set at the proficiency rate (percent of students proficient or above) of the 50th percentile of schools in 2010. These cut-points are set separately for reading, math, writing and science, and at the elementary, middle and high school level. The goal will be for all schools to earn an *exceeds* rating, by meeting the cut-point for *exceeds*. The *exceeds* cut-points are set at the proficiency rate (percent of students proficient or above) of the 90th percentile of schools in 2010.

In order to reach this goal, interim targets have been set annually from 2011-12 until 2015-16, with equal incremental increases for each year.

See page 76 of Colorado's waiver application for more details and the actual AMOs by year.

AMOs

- Will we talk about the AMOs for achievement as targets or minimum expectations?

The AMOs for achievement could be described as ambitious, yet attainable targets.

Focus schools

- What is a focus school?

In order to be approved for a waiver, Colorado needed to identify 10% of its Title I schools as "focus" schools. Colorado's "focus" school list will be run once the 2011-12 assessment and accountability data are available. Focus schools are Title IA schools that receive a Turnaround or Priority Improvement plan type assignment, whose disaggregated student groups are furthest from the *meets* cut-point in academic achievement. Districts will be notified in August of any focus schools within their district.

Focus schools

- What are the responsibilities associated with being a focus school?

Focus schools will be eligible for additional supports from CDE. Focus schools will be assigned a performance manager, who will assist with the development of the UIP and monitor implementation. Focus schools will need to have approved UIPs from CDE in order for the district to access Title IA funds.

Title IA

- If a Title I school is identified as Priority Improvement or Turnaround, are there any additional requirements for these schools?

Yes. Title I schools identified for priority improvement or turnaround in the 11-12 school year must offer choice and SES in the 12-13 school year.

Title IA Improvement/ choice/ SES

- How much of a district's Title IA funds will be required to be set-aside for public school choice and supplemental education services (SES)?

A district that has any Title I schools on Priority Improvement or Turnaround must set aside an amount equal to 15% of its Title IA allocation for SES and choice. Districts may use general funds for SES/Choice; however, the 15% set aside must be reallocated through the SES reallocation application process.

Title IA Improvement/ choice

- What schools will need to offer Title IA public school choice in 2012-13?

Any Title I school that was on Priority Improvement or Turnaround in the 2011-12 school year will need to offer public school choice in the 2012-13 school year.

Title IA reporting/ choice

- Are the Title IA public school choice notification letters still required?

Yes. The eligibility for public school choice will change with the waiver, but notification letters will still be required annually.

Title IA/choice

- What happens to students that choiced out under the old AYP system? Must they return to their home school?

Students that choiced out under the AYP system are entitled to stay in the choice school until the end of that school's grade span. However, the district is no longer obligated to pay for the transportation.

Title IA Improvement/ SES

- What schools will need to offer Title IA supplemental education services (SES) in 2012-13?

Any Title I school that was on Priority Improvement or Turnaround in the 2011-12 school year will need to offer Supplemental Education Services (SES) in the 2012-13 school year.

Title IA Improvement/ SES

- How will the SES per pupil allocation be determined?

The SES per pupil allocation will be determined as in previous years. That is, this amount is set by the USDE when it calculates Title IA allocations to districts.

Title IA/SES

- If SES must be offered, can the district apply to reallocate these funds back to general Title IA once the need has been met?

These funds cannot be reallocated back to general Title I funds during that current year. The district should apply to reallocate any remaining SES and Choice funds (once it has established that the needs have been met), but the activities to be conducted with these funds are restricted to additional intervention activities for students in the affected school(s).

Title IA/SES and choice

- If a Title I school was designated as Priority Improvement or Turnaround in 2011-2012 but moves to Improvement status in 2012-2013, must choice and SES still be offered?

Yes. The school must demonstrate capacity to remain out of Priority Improvement or Turnaround for one year, before being permitted to discontinue SES and Choice.

Title IA/SES and choice

- If any of the district's Title I schools are identified for Priority Improvement or Turnaround in FY 12-13, will SES and Choice need to be offered in that year?

If a district finds that it has Title I school(s) identified for Priority Improvement or Turnaround as a result of newly released SPFs in August of 2012, the schools will not have to offer SES or Choice in this identification year. The district will have a year to plan to offer SES and Choice in subsequent years, until the school(s) moves into Improvement or Performance status.

Title IA School Improvement

- Do schools that are currently in the Restructuring-Planning year of Title IA School Improvement need to restructure in 2012-13?

Title I schools and districts will only be held to state accountability requirements during academic year 2012-13. NCLB Improvement status will not be calculated, so schools that are currently planning for restructuring (in 2011-12), will not be identified as Restructuring- Implementation. However, since the restructuring plan should be based on addressing the root causes of performance challenges in schools, and is part of the school's UIP, it should be implemented.

Title IA School Improvement

- What happens to the current Title IA School Improvement clock?

With the start of the 2012-13 school year, the current Title IA school improvement statuses disappear. The waiver replaced the Title IA system with the state system, specifically the requirement that no school or district may remain on Turnaround or Priority Improvement for more than 5 years.

Title IA Improvement/ professional development

- How much of a district's Title IA funds will be required to be set-aside for professional development?

If a district that accepts Title IA funds had a designation of Priority Improvement or Turnaround in the 2011-12 school year, then the district will need to set aside 10% of its Title I allocation for professional development in the areas where it is not meeting state expectations. Districts not identified as Turnaround or Priority Improvement in 2011-12, but identified for Title IA Program Improvement or Corrective Action may continue to take this set-aside for 2012-13, as a transition year. Additionally, districts with schools on Turnaround or Priority Improvement may take the 10% set-aside as well.

As a reminder, Title IIA funds may be used for professional development.

The use of these funds must address the priority performance challenges identified in the UIP.

Title IA

- What happens to the unused Program Improvement/Corrective Action/Professional Development at the School level from the 11/12 funding year?
The funds revert to any general Title I funds carried over into the 2012-13 funding year

Title IA

- Are districts required to set aside funds for equitable services for eligible non public school students?

Yes.

Title IA

- Will districts that get \$500,000 need to set aside 1% for parental activities?

Yes. Additionally, 95% of the 1% must go to the Title IA schools.

Title IA

- Can Title IA districts continue to set aside funds to support pre-school and family literacy?

Yes.

Highly Qualified

- Can the district still retain a set aside amount for HQ?

Yes. A district may set aside up to 10% of its allocation to support high quality professional development in its Title I schools, as well as activities to ensure that staff in Title I schools are highly qualified.

Title IA reporting

- Is the NCLB Annual Report to the public still required?

Yes. For the 2011-12 school year, the Annual Report requirements for reporting on the 2010-11 school year remain in place. For the 2012-13 school year, additional guidance will be released around how the specific data requirements may change (ie. replacing AYP with SPF/DPF data).

Title IIA

- Will Title IIA no longer identify districts for accountability purposes? What does this mean for the UIP?

The Title IIA accountability (2141c) identification process has changed, however, the program will still continue to identify districts for accountability purposes. Rather than using HQ and AYP data for identification, districts with Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan types will also be identified under Title IIA accountability.

Title IIA

- How does the waiver affect the prioritization of Title IIA funds?

Under NCLB section 2122(b)(3), LEAs must target Title IIA funds to schools that have (1) the lowest proportion of HQ teachers, (2) the largest average class size or (3) are identified for school improvement under Title I. Because the waiver enables Colorado to align with the state accountability system, schools on Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan types should replace the third option of Title I schools on improvement.

Title Programs

- Can districts still transfer funds into Title I from other NCLB programs?

Yes. The waiver has an impact on transferability in two ways. First, it removes the 50% cap on transferability. Districts are now permitted to transfer up to 100% of available funds (after providing for equitable services) between the IIA and IID programs and up to 100% of those available funds (after providing for equitable services) into Title I. Funds may not be transferred out of Title I. However, there are no new funds tied to the IID program and IID will be removed from the consolidated application budget after FY 2013 when the Tydings period has expired.

Title Programs

- Can districts still transfer funds into Title I from other NCLB programs (cont.)

Second, because the improvement and corrective action designations no longer apply, limitations in the percentage of funds that Title I Improvement districts may transfer no longer apply. Therefore after providing for equitable services, Priority Improvement and Turnaround districts may transfer up to 100% of remaining funds between IIA and IID and may transfer up to 100% of remaining IIA funds into the Title I program. Please note that funds transferred into a program take on the requirements or restrictions of the receiving program except that the waiver permits a district to exclude funds transferred into Title IA from the base when calculating any setaside percentages. Note also that equitable services for non-public schools must still occur prior to transferring funds to Title IA.

Highly Qualified

- Do all core content teachers still need to meet the highly qualified requirements?

Yes, all core content teachers must still meet the Highly Qualified requirements. While the state has been waived from using HQ data to determine Title IIA accountability, the state was not waived from the HQ requirements.

Title III AMAO

- What are AMAOs?

AMAOs (Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives) are the performance indicators for Title III accountability. AMAO 1 concerns progress in English language proficiency, AMAO 2 concerns attaining English proficiency, and AMAO 3 concerns content (reading and math) proficiency for English learners.

Title III AMAO

- Has the Title III waiver been approved?

CDE is still working with the USDE on this. We believe we may be able to do this through an amendment process. It currently looks like we'll be able to align AMAO 1 with the CELApro growth indicator being added to the performance frameworks. However, AMAO 2 will probably need to remain as it is currently calculated. AMAO 3 is also still in discussion with USDE.

Title III AMAO

- Did the definition of AMAOs change with Colorado's waiver?

Colorado is working with the USDE to align the AMAO indicators with the state performance framework indicators.

Title III AMAO

- Now that there is no more AYP, how will AMAO 3 be calculated?

This is under review by the US Department of Education.

Title III reporting

- Are the letters to parents around AMAO results still required?

Yes.

Questions?

- FAQ can be found at the following URL:
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/Accountability/CoNCLBWaiverFaq-StateAccountability.asp>