



NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Flexibility and Resources for Rural Districts

Rural Districts in North Dakota

- Approximately 85% of Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) in North Dakota (ND) are considered rural according to federal REAP regulations
- Many rural LEAs are not eligible for all federal Title programs
- Rural LEAs have unique needs
- Rural LEAs have limited funding

Therefore, there is a strong need for flexibility

Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)

This webinar will address the following topics for rural districts:

- REAP
 - Small Rural School Achievement (SRSA)
 - Rural Low Income Schools (RLIS)
- Consolidated Application Flexibility

REAP

- This program provides additional funding for rural LEAs through two formula grant programs
 - SRSA
 - RLIS
- All LEAs eligible for these grants must apply annually

Allowable Use of Funds for REAP (RLIS/SRSA)

- ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 2, Section 5222(a)
 - Title I, Part A (Improving basic programs operated by LEAs), Part C (Migrant Education), Part D (Neglected & Delinquent)
 - Title II, Part A (Improving teacher quality state grants)
 - Title III (Language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students)
 - Title IV, Part A (Student support and academic enrichment), Part B (21st CCLC Programs)
 - Parent and Family Engagement Activities

Examples of Allowable Activities for REAP (RLIS/SRSA)

Guidance	RLIS	SRSA	Example
Title I, Part A	X	X	High-quality preschool to facilitate the transition from early learning to elementary education programs
Title II, Part A	X	X	Teacher professional development courses to enable an LEA to offer pre-calculus or organic chemistry classes
Title III	X	X	Providing specialized training to English learners and their families
Title IV, Part A	X	X	Offering assistance to students that have been truant, suspended, or expelled to improve their academic achievement
Title IV, Part B 21 st CCLC After School Program		X	Provide an after school program
Parent and Family Engagement	X	X	Engage parents and family members through parent nights at school to support academic learning

REAP (RLIS/SRSA) Dual Eligibility

- If an LEA meets the eligibility criteria for both REAP programs, they are considered Dual Eligible and may choose to participate in either SRSA or RLIS
- If the dual eligible LEA does not submit an SRSA application or an application is submitted but the formula allocation is \$0, it will be placed in the RLIS funding cohort
- The final list of RLIS eligible LEAs will be used to determine RLIS allocation amounts. State Educational Agencies (SEAs) have the option to award RLIS grants to eligible LEAs on a competitive basis or according to a formula. ND grants RLIS funds through a formula process based on a per-pupil method

REAP (RLIS/SRSA) Timeline

- November 16, 2018
 - SEA receive eligibility spreadsheet from REAP team
 - SEAs submit ADA, FY17 Title IIA and IVA allocations
- January 28, 2019
 - Eligibility spreadsheet posted
 - LEAs review spreadsheet
 - Corrections submitted if applicable
- February 20 – April 26, 2019
 - SRSA application period
- May – June, 2019
 - REAP team identifies SRSA and RLIS cohorts
 - REAP team notifies SEAs of all RLIS-eligible LEAs
- July 2019
 - SRSA grants awarded
- August – September 2019
 - RLIS application period
- October 1, 2019
 - RLIS grants awarded

SRSA Grant Opportunity

SRSA Eligibility

- Total number of students in average daily attendance (ADA) at all schools served by the LEA is fewer than 600 or each county in which a school served by the LEA is located has a total population density of fewer than 10 people per square mile
- All schools served by LEA have a National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) locale determination of 41, 42, or 43
- New column on the eligibility spreadsheet indicates which LEAs are anticipated to receive an allocation if they apply:
www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/SSI/TitleVreap/

SRSA Application

- Application submitted to USDE on Grants.gov: www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?dpp=1&oppld=313089
- Application is open now and will close April 26
- Pre-Application:
 - Ensure DUNS number is active and registered in SAM
 - Register in Grants.gov
 - Create Workspace Profile in Grants.gov
- Application package consists of the following forms:
 - Application
 - Ed GEPA 47 Form
 - USDE Budget Information Non-Construction Programs
 - Assurances for Non-Construction Programs
 - ED SF-424 Supplement
 - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
 - Grants.gov Lobbying Form
- USDE conducted detailed webinars that walked LEAs through every step of the application process
 - April 10, 3:30-4:30 pm EST
 - <https://educateevents1.webex.com/educateevents1/onstage/g.php?MTID=e481002b22dafa6e3e19ebc51bfb18262>

RLIS Grant Opportunity

RLIS Eligibility

- Twenty percent or more of children aged 5 to 17 in average daily attendance must be from families with incomes below the poverty line as determined by the small area income poverty estimate data
- All schools served by LEA must have an NCES locale determination of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43

RLIS Application

- Applications submitted to the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
- Applications accepted August/September
- Application includes:
 - Activities
 - Narrative
 - Budget
 - Assurances



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Flexibility for Rural Districts in the Consolidated Application

Transferability Under ESSA

- Under the ESSA, the ability to transfer funds from one program to another is called Transferability
- Transferability allows LEAs greater flexibility to target federal funds to programs that most effectively address their unique needs
- LEAs wishing to participate in this flexibility must complete specific sections of the consolidated application

Transferability Clarification

- LEAs can only Transfer into a program in which they receive an allocation
- For example: LEAs not eligible for Title IV can't Transfer Title II funds into Title IV
- This is highly problematic for many LEAs that do not receive Title I or IV funding

Transferability Title V Solution

- There is flexibility available to rural LEAs regarding Transferability in the consolidated application
- This provision will allow rural LEAs the flexibility to Transfer their Title II and IV funding
- This flexibility is available to LEAs that are eligible (not necessarily receiving) for the SRSA and/or RLIS grants

Requirements for Transfer of Funds

- Any transferred funds are subject to requirements of the programs to which they are transferred
- An LEA that wants to Transfer funds must indicate this on its Consolidated Application for Federal Title Program Funds
- An LEA must consult with the nonpublic schools in its district before a Transfer is requested, if applicable
- If an LEA chooses to Transfer, they must transfer all funds from all programs that are allowed to be Transferred (this will eliminate the district having to manage multiple budgets)

What Does This Flexibility Mean?

- This flexibility allows eligible LEAs (SRSA/RLIS) to combine their Title II and IV funds into one pool to be used for allowable activities under any of the federal Title programs
- Programs for allowable use of funds
 - Title I, Part A (Improving basic programs operated by LEAs)
 - Title II, Part A (Improving teacher quality state grants)
 - Title III (Language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students)
 - Title IV, Part A (Student support and academic enrichment)
 - Parent and Family Engagement Activities

How Will This Flexibility Work?

- The Title V federal REAP has been built into the consolidated application process
- Validations added:
 - LEAs can only transfer funds into a program that already has an allocation
- Warning Added:
 - If an LEA intends to transfer into Title V, they must be eligible for a 2019-2020 federal REAP (RLIS/SRSA) grant

New for 2019-2020 Consolidated Application Process

- Title V specific page
- LEAs need to address:
 - Staff
 - Description
 - Evidence-based
 - Programs supported with Title V flexibility

Where Can I Learn More?

- Updated consolidated application guidance will be released in May 2019 and will have information on this flexibility
- REAP flexibility will be readdressed in the Consolidated Application webinar