

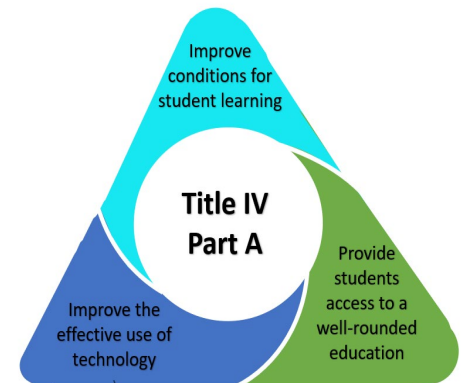
Developing Objectives and Measurable Outcomes



Title IV Part A requires districts to provide program objectives and outcomes in their consolidated applications for Title IV funds. Program objectives establish criteria and standards against which you can determine program performance.

Districts can determine if they wish to establish objectives and outcomes:

- for each activity,
- for a group of activities,
- by content area,
- or for the overall Title IV portion of the application.



Note: *Districts must report on every objective they include in the Title IV section of the consolidated application; therefore, to avoid creating reporting that may be burdensome, careful consideration should be given when creating the number of objectives and outcomes regarding the investment of Title IV funds.*

The stakeholder engagement, consultation with nonpublic schools, and the district’s needs assessment are critical pieces of data informing the development of objectives and outcomes for Title IV funds. Federal Statute does not specifically state a process for creating objectives and measurable outcomes. NDDPI supports creating smart objectives as best practice.

Attributes of SMART objectives

- **Specific:** includes the “who”, “what”, and “where”. Use only one action verb to avoid issues with measuring success.
- **Measurable:** focuses on “how much” change is expected.
- **Achievable:** realistic given program resources and planned implementation.
- **Relevant:** relates directly to Title IV program/activity goals.
- **Time-bound:** focuses on “when” the objective will be achieved.

Objectives can be process or outcome oriented:

- **Process objectives** describe the activities/services/strategies that will be delivered as part of implementing the program. Process objectives, by their nature, are usually short-term.
- **Outcome objectives** specify the intended effect of the program in the target population or the end result of a program. The outcome objective focuses on what your target population(s) will know or will be able to do as a result of your program/activity.

Once objectives and outcomes are written, the district provides justification details for the activities or programs in the consolidated application Title IV budget. The investment of Title IV funds should also align with the district’s priorities outlined in its strategy map and with the state’s K-12 Strategic Plan.

Smart objectives are best practices but not required. All objectives must have measurable outcomes.

EXAMPLES

District A: After a careful review of all needs assessment data and stakeholder consultation, it was determined that vaping is becoming an increasing problem, and students are missing school.

Title IV Area	Objectives with Measurable Outcomes (in the consolidated application)
Safe and Healthy	By May of 2026, using suspension and expulsion data and daily office referrals, ND High School will reduce vape infractions by 20% through the installation of vape detectors in all student bathrooms.
Well Rounded	By May of 2026, using suspension and expulsion data and daily office referrals, ND High School will reduce vape infractions by 20% through the implementation of a drug prevention curriculum for all students in grades 7-12.

In the budget section of the application, aligned activities could look like: **SH:** *purchasing Vape Detectors, contracting with the PD for the DARE program, WR: purchasing Drug Prevention Curriculum, teacher professional development to implement the new curriculum.*

District B: After a careful review of all needs assessment data and stakeholder consultation, it was determined that student engagement is declining.

Title IV Area	Objectives with Measurable Outcomes (in the consolidated application)
Safe and Healthy	By May of 2026, ND School will reduce chronic absenteeism by 15% by establishing and implementing a Stay in School Program, as measured through local chronic absenteeism data.
Well Rounded	By May of 2026, ND middle school will provide three STEAM related after school educational clubs available to all students in grades 7-12.
Effective Use of Technology	By May Of 2025, ND middle school provide STEAM training for all teachers involved in the STEAM after school educational clubs.

In the budget section of the application, aligned activities could look like: **SH:** *hire a school social worker, ½ contract for School Resource Officer, Stipends for staff to provide training on PBIS, Contract for CPI training, Travel and registration for staff to attend Restorative Justice, MTSS, Mandt training, Stipends for staff for book study on trauma, training WR: contract for after school tutoring, contract for after school club leaders EUT: travel and registration for six staff to attend STEAM training.*

The above example could be written as one district objective:

Title IV Area	Objectives with Measurable Outcomes (in the consolidated application)
Safe and Healthy	By the end of the grant period (9/30/2026), ND School district will increase overall student engagement by 15%, as reported in the student engagement survey, by increasing student supports and supplemental learning opportunities for students in 7-12.

In the budget section of the application, aligned activities could look like: **SH:** *hire a school social worker, ½ contract for School Resource Officer, Stipends for staff to provide training on PBIS, Contract for CPI training, Travel and registration for staff to attend Restorative Justice, MTSS, Mandt training, Stipends for staff for book study on trauma, training WR: contract for after school tutoring, contract for after school club leaders EUT: travel and registration for 6 staff to attend STEAM training.*