

Additional Funds Available for Schools Identified for Improvement

Key Information

Schools identified for program improvement have an opportunity to apply for additional program improvement funds.

1. Title I Law

The *No Child Left Behind* law requires states to withhold up to 4% off the top of their state Title I allocation for program improvement. These funds are referred to as the 1003a funds. We have approximately 1 million to disseminate to schools in improvement.

2. Amount Available

For the 2016-2017 school year, schools identified for improvement can apply for up to \$20,000 in 1003a funding to help support improvement initiatives.

3. Funding Period

The funding period is July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017. All activities must conclude by June 30, 2017. The NDDPI received applications for 66 schools identified for improvement

4. Competitive

The application process is very competitive this year. Due to the AYP/Program Improvement freeze, we have a significant number of schools in improvement. The higher the application scores, the more likely it is to be funded.

5. Allowable Use of Funds

- The program improvement funds can only be utilized in Title I buildings identified for program improvement.
- The Title I targeted assistance schools identified for improvement are somewhat limited on how the funds can be utilized. The targeted assistance school designation does not go away for program improvement. When a school plans to look at data or conduct high-quality professional development, all staff in the identified building can participate; however, any intervention-related funds can only be for identified at-risk students.
- Indirect costs (object code 900) are not allowable with additional program improvement funds.

6. Process/Timeline

- April 2016 – The application, scoring rubric, and guidance was disseminated for schools interested in applying for program improvement funding.
- June 1, 2016 – The program improvement applications were due and were uploaded to the official program improvement submission site at <https://apps.nd.gov/itd/filetransfer/login.htm>.
- Mid-June 2016 – The program improvement applications will be reviewed and scored.
- Mid-June 2016 – The Office of Federal Title Programs compiles rubrics and determines which schools will receive funding.
- June 27, 2016 – Email correspondence will be disseminated, announcing which applications received funding. Grant award and approval letter will be disseminated to schools with approved applications.
- July 1, 2016 – The grant period to spend program improvement funding begins.