

ACTION INFORMATION SHEET

What Services May be Offered to Students in Title I Schools?

What is a Title I School?

Title I is a federal funding program. It affects students who are behind academically or at risk of falling behind. Title I funding is based on the number of low-income children in a school.

Your school principal can tell you if your child's school is Title I.

Students aren't the only ones who receive report cards. Schools, too, are graded on how well they perform.

A federal law called No Child Left Behind (NCLB) says that all public schools have to meet some basic standards. Those standards are called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Schools that don't meet the standards are called "schools needing improvement."

What happens if your child's Title I school still "needs improvement" after two years? Your child may be able to receive two helpful services.

Supplemental Educational Services

One of those services is called "supplemental educational services." This term refers to extra help such as tutoring. It is provided in subjects such as reading, language arts, and math. These services can be provided before or after school, on weekends, or in the summer. They are free.

Who provides the services? Parents may choose someone from a list provided by the Minnesota Department of Education. You can ask your school principal for the list. You also can find the list online at <http://education.state.mn.us/mde/index.html>.

School Choice

The other service is called "school choice." It means you can send your child to another public school. You can do this if your child's Title I school "needs improvement" or is unsafe.

Your school district must tell you each year if your child can go to another school. It has to give you a choice of at least two other schools. It also must pay for your child's transportation costs. Children who are doing poorly in school and come from low-income homes are given priority if there is not enough money to pay for all students.

Questions?

If you have questions about these free services, call the Minnesota Parent Center at 952-838-9000 or 800-53-PACER (toll free in Greater Minnesota).

The Minnesota Parent Center helps parents be strong partners in their children's education. It also encourages community involvement to help all children be prepared for school and to succeed when they arrive there. The center's multi-cultural staff can answer questions about early childhood learning and school-related problems for all children. They also provide helpful written materials and offer workshops on topics such as the No Child Left Behind Act, parental involvement, and more. All services are free.

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PACER is a statewide nonprofit organization. It supports the educational rights of children with and without disabilities. It offers workshops, individual assistance, written information, and more.

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