

# Title Funding Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## **What are “Title Funds”?**

Title funds are federal funds allotted based on a school’s percentage of students on the free and reduced lunch (FRL) program. The district receives a federal formula grant that provides additional education funds for children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. The purpose is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on the challenging academic achievement standards.

## **How is eligibility determined for individual campuses?**

A campus can be eligible for Title I funds once 35% of the students on the campus qualify for FRL. Some districts may choose to operate a Target Assistance program for only FRL eligible students on campuses with 35% to 39.99% of the student population on FRL. SBISD only operates Schoolwide programs for elementary and middle school campuses with 40% or more of the student population on FRL. Districts are required to pass additional moneys to campuses that reach this threshold. As a schoolwide program, all students on a campus benefit from the programs funded by the federal dollars regardless of their economic status. March 31 numbers are used to determine campus eligibility for the upcoming school year.

## **What Are the Benefits of Receiving Title Funds?**

Schools receiving Title resources use these dollars to supplement the school’s existing programs. These dollars are used for...

- Identifying students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely academic support to help them meet their educational goals
- Providing supplemental staff/programs/materials/supplies
- Conducting parental Involvement meetings/trainings/activities
- Recruiting/Hiring/Retaining Highly Qualified Teachers

## **What other opportunities are available?**

One of the district’s initiatives is to ensure each campus receiving Title funds has Communities In Schools staffing to assist families and students with non-academic needs. This initiative is funded with Title I and other supplemental funds and is a district priority.

Students also have the opportunity to take advantage of summer school at a discounted cost. Eligible schools can also receive discounts on study trips and apply for other competitive grants. Additionally, teachers at these schools can also apply for the loan forgiveness program offered by the federal government.

## **Once a school receives Title funding, will school always receive Title funding?**

A campus will receive Title funds as long as the FRL student population remains at 40%. Once the rate drops below 40%, the campus operates as a schoolwide campus and receive funds for one additional year. There are campuses in the district that come in and out of the program.

## **How are FRL students identified?**

There are two ways students are identified for FRL benefits. Most often, families complete a FRL application. Additionally, on a monthly basis, SBISD receives a state report including the names of students whose families have received aid from a state agency – for example, food stamps. By law, SBISD must include as FRL any student whose name appears on the monthly state report.