

## I. Title V, Part B, Subpart 2: Rural and Low-Income School Program

The statistical landscape of Missouri schools is that eight percent of the 547 LEAs serve fifty percent of the public school students. While that statistic illustrates the level of student concentration in large districts, it also implies that the other ninety-two percent of districts tend to be rural, outstate, and small, often facing significant economic disadvantage. The Rural and Low-Income School Program will be used by MO-DESE to provide compensatory grant funds to offset the competitive and allocation disadvantages of these districts.

1. Outcomes and Objectives (*ESEA section 5223(b)(1)*): Provide information on program objectives and outcomes for activities under Title V, Part B, Subpart 2, including how the SEA will use funds to help all students meet the challenging State academic standards. The purpose of Title V.B.2 is to provide for equity in cases where rural or low-income schools receive allocations insufficient for their needs and are at a competitive disadvantage for other grants. The allowable uses of Title V.B.2 include alignment with the purposes of
  - Title I, Part A
  - Title II, Part A
  - Title III
  - Title IV, Part A or Part B

Each of those title programs attempts to improve student achievement through either school improvement, support of English learners or access to a well-rounded education. Because Title V.B.2 is an equity mechanism with allowable uses aligned to other specific Titles under ESEA as modified by ESSA, the program goals for Title V.B.2 will be the same as the program goals associated with the chosen allowable use.

LEAs have needs assessments and associated plans with each of these title programs. Clearly, those LEAs that are disadvantaged due to poverty, size or rural setting require some additional support to meet their students' needs through those plans.

MO-DESE will ensure that LEAs use Title V.B.2 for purposes of improving academic achievement by requiring LEAs to indicate how Title V.B.2 funds will be aligned to the work outlined in the other Title(s). The goals for academic achievement for Title V.B.2 will consequently be those set as the state's long-term goals for academic achievement and graduation.

Each LEA will be required to submit an assurance to MO-DESE that the funds received under Title V, Part B will be expended for needs outlined in the LEA's needs assessment or as outlined in the state's Consolidated Plan.

MO-DESE will make grant awards by formula proportionate to the numbers of students in average daily attendance served by eligible LEAs.

2. Technical Assistance (*ESEA section 5223(b)(3)*): Describe how the SEA will provide technical assistance to eligible LEAs to help such agencies implement the activities described in ESEA section 5222. MO-DESE's Office of Quality Schools hosts an annual Federal Programs Conference for stakeholders to provide technical assistance on the federal law, regulations and requirements. The Federal Programs staff conducts webinars throughout the year for specific requirements from the law concerning special populations (homeless students,

foster students and nonpublic students/requirements). When reasonable and necessary, the Federal Programs staff conducts regional meetings to assist LEAs on completing the budget, plan, tiered monitoring, and/or the self-monitoring checklist. MO-DESE Federal Programs supervisors also provide technical assistance during on-site monitoring visits and during the approval of plans and budgets.

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