

Title VI, Part B
Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)
2009-2010

General Information

Title VI, Part B of the reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) under Section 6201 provides funding to address the unique needs of rural school districts that:

1. Lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for Federal competitive grants.
2. Receive formula grant allocations often too small to be effective in meeting their intended purpose.

There are two separate grant programs within REAP. The Small Rural School Grant Program (Section 6212) is funded directly by the U.S. Department of Education (US ED). The Rural and Low Income School Program (Section 6221) provides funds to rural districts that:

1. Are ineligible to participate in the Small Rural School Achievement Program.
2. Serve concentrations of poor students.

Eligibility for Rural and Low Income Schools Grant

Under the Rural and Low Income Program, the Georgia State Board of Education (SBOE) awards sub-grants to eligible systems on a formula basis.

A Local Educational Agency (LEA) is eligible if:

1. Twenty percent or more of the children ages 5 through 17 years served by the LEA are from families with income below the poverty line.
2. All the schools served by the agency are designed with a local school code of 6, 7, or 8 by the US ED's National Center for Education Statistics or the US ED has determined, based on a demonstration by LEA and concurrence of SBOE, that the LEA is located in an area defined as rural by a government agency of the state.
3. The LEA is not eligible to receive a Small Rural School Grant under Section 6212.

Allowable Activities

Activities authorized for Title VI, Part B Funding:

- A. Teacher recruitment and retention, including the use of signing bonuses and other financial incentives as authorized by Title II, Part A (Teacher Quality).
- B. Teacher professional development, including programs that train teachers to utilize technology to improve teaching and to train special needs teachers as authorized by Title II, Part A (Teacher Quality).
- C. Educational technology, including software and hardware, as described in Title II, Part D (Enhancing Education Through Technology).

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- D. Parental Involvement activities as authorized by Title V, Part A (Innovative Programs).
- E. Activities authorized under Title IV, Part A (Safe and-Drug Free Schools and Communities).
- F. Activities authorized under Title I, Part A (Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged).
- G. Activities authorized under, Title III, Part A (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigration Students).

Accountability Requirements

Once an LEA has received three or more years of funding under either REAP grant program, or has exercised REAP-Flex authority for three or more years, or a combination thereof, specific accountability requirements take effect.

The Department must examine whether the LEA is making AYP as defined in *Section 1111 (b)(2)*.

LEA makes AYP after 3 years of participation:

- LEA continues to receive funds or exercise REAP-Flex (if eligible).
- LEA continues broad flexibility.

LEA does not make AYP for only the last year after 3 years of participation:

- LEA continues to receive funds or exercise REAP-Flex (if eligible).
- LEA is not yet in improvement but all funds must be used to address the specific weaknesses that resulted in the LEA's failure to make AYP through the support of research-based activities.

LEA does not make AYP for the last two years after 3 years of participation:

- LEA continues to receive funds or exercise REAP-Flex (if eligible).
- Such an LEA is in needs improvement status and all funds must be spent in accordance with the LEA's improvement plan under section 1116 of ESEA.

Annual Evaluation Report

All districts who implemented Title VI, Part B activities during the 2008-2009 school year will be required to complete the Annual Evaluation Report via the FY10 Consolidated Application. This includes districts that did not receive an allocation in FY09, but that had FY08 carryover funds. The Title VI, Part B program will need to be added to the district's programs in the Consolidated Application. To access the Annual Evaluation Report, click on the Program Information tab, then the Data Collection tab.

- **Data Collection Tab**

- **Title VI B REAP Evaluation Tab**

- The data for this report must reflect the 2008-2009 school year.
- Choose "yes" or "no" for each of the seven activities indicating whether or not the LEA participated.
- For each activity the LEA implemented, enter the dollar amount spent in that particular activity.

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- **The activities reported must match the activities reported on the Program Information Page submitted with the FY09 approved budget or the most recent approved budget amendment if applicable.**

Due to the new completion report schedule, the deadline for submission of the Title VI, Part B Annual Evaluation Report has been changed from **August 15 to October 30**.

Consolidated Application FY10 Title VI, Part B Budget

Budget descriptions must be very detailed and should not include open ended statements or the words “such as” or “etc.” Descriptions cannot be general in nature so that it is unclear how the funds will be used. For districts that did not make AYP, the budget will be reviewed to ensure that the district has met the accountability requirements under Title VI, Part B.

Program Information Page

- **Rural Education Initiative Tab**
 - The information requested on this tab has not changed from last year.
 - For the FY10 budget, enter the amount of anticipated expenditures for each activity the LEA will implement.
 - If the LEA is in Needs Improvement status, only the Title I, Part A activities may be selected.

Budget Page

- Specific detailed budget descriptions must be provided for each item and should align with the chosen activities on the Program Information page. The figures in the budget must agree with the anticipated expenditures on the Program Information page.
- If the LEA did not make AYP, the budget descriptions must clearly indicate that the specific weaknesses that resulted in the failure to make AYP are being addressed. Budget descriptions must contain language that clearly shows that funds are being used to address the weaknesses in the content areas and for the subgroups whose performance has led to the district’s failure to make AYP.