DR. BRIAN L. MAHER, COMMISSIONER

402.471.2295

402.471.0117



P.O. Box 94987 Lincoln, NE 68509-4987



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March 31,2025

To: Public School Superintendent

From: Tate Toedman, NDE Nonpublic Ombudsman and Beth Wooster, Federal Programs Administrator

# RE: 2024-2025 Data Collection - Federal Programs within Boundaries Nonpublic Consultation (for 2025-26 school year services) (NDE Form # 34-014) SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS NEEDING TO COMPLETE ONE OR MORE FEDERAL PROGRAMS WITHIN BOUNDARIES NONPUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ARE RECEIVING THIS EMAIL. PLEASE FORWARD TO OTHERS IN YOUR DISTRICT THAT MAY NEED THIS INFORMATION. Collection opens 3/1/2025 Collection due to NDE 4/30/2025

Every Public School District in Nebraska that has one or more Nonpublic Systems located within the Public School District's geographic boundaries must complete this collection, which is in the NDE Portal, no longer part of the CDC. This 2024-25 collection will be used for determining nonpublic participation for the 20245-26 school year. It is the responsibility of the Public School District to submit completed forms to the Nebraska Department of Education. Prepopulated forms are available for download by the Public District to use when consulting with the Nonpublic School (s). A form must be completed for each Nonpublic System geographically located within the Public School District's attendance area to document that the Nonpublic System was consulted regarding potential participation in one or more of the following federal programs:

- Title II-A: Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III-A: Language Instruction for English Learners
- Title III-A: Immigrant Education
- Title IV-A: Student Support and Academic Enrichment
- Title IV-B: 21st Century Community Learning Centers

# PROCESS for completing FEDERAL PROGRAMS WITHIN BOUNDARIES NONPUBLIC CONSULTATION:

- Step 1: Districts obtain access to the Federal Programs within Boundaries Nonpublic Consultation collection(s) in the Portal.
- This is listed as a "Federal" collection. Superintendents have information regarding this activation code and may assign it to appropriate staff.
- Step 2: Download forms that will be used in the consultation with the Nonpublic School(s).
- Step 3: Public District representative consults with the nonpublic school(s) representative(s).



- Step 4: After completion of consultation with the Nonpublic School(s), **the Public District will enter data from the form into the Federal Programs within Boundaries Nonpublic Consultation Collection in the Portal.** Validations and warnings are in place to assist districts with submitting the data correctly
- Step 5: Public District submits and approves the collection by due date of April 30, 2025. Corrections will be allowed during the audit window, which closes on May15th.
  Data may be "Submitted" by the person assigned this task by the Superintendent. The Authorized Representative is the only one that can "Approve" the data in the Portal.

Step 6: Public Districts keep the paper consultation forms, with original signatures, on file for seven

years. These forms may be requested by NDE at any time and/or reviewed during ESEA monitoring.

The following information may be helpful as you navigate through the form.

- Column B. Public District Receives Allocation
  - Title II-A has been marked "Yes" since every Nebraska Public District is eligible for these funds.
  - The remaining grants listed have this comment included: "Consultation for these grants is required as eligible recipients are not yet known."
- Column C. Nonpublic School Consulted
  - All grants have a radio button to be marked "Yes" after consultation has taken place. This is the initial step in the consultation process should the District become eligible for these grants.
- Column D. Nonpublic School Participating
  - Select "Yes" or "No" for each grant program listed.
- Column E. Nonpublic EL Number
  - Enter appropriate number, if applicable.
- Column F. Nonpublic Immigrant Number
- Enter appropriate number, if applicable.
- Column G. Comments
  - NDE is suggesting if "Yes" is selected in Column D, you may want to make a comment in Column G that indicates the Nonpublic will participate if the Public District would receive a grant.

#### Title II-A: Supporting Effective Instruction

**NOTE:** Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, USDE began updating the formula for determining state level **Title II-A allocations**. The "hold-harmless" provision governing the calculation of District subgrants by NDE is no longer used.

- The change requires that 20% of the funds must be distributed to Districts based on the relative number in individuals ages 5 through 17 who reside in the area the District serves (based on the most recent Census data); and
- 80% of the funds must be distributed to Districts based on the relative number of individuals ages 5 through 17 who reside in the area the District serves and who are from families with incomes below the poverty line (based on the most recent Census data)

## Title IV-A: Student Support and Academic Enrichment

The purpose of this grant is to improve students' academic achievement by increasing the capacity of States, Districts, Schools, and local communities to:

- Provide all students with access to a well-rounded education;
- Improve school conditions for student learning; and

• Improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students.

#### Determining Equitable Services Amount for Titles II-A and IV-A

The amount a Public District must reserve to provide equitable services for Nonpublic School teachers and other educational personnel for Title II-A and Title IV-A services is based on the District's total Title II-A and IV-A allocations, less administrative costs. The District determines the amount of funds available for Title II-A and IV-A equitable services for Nonpublic School teachers and other educational personnel by calculating, on a per pupil basis, the amount available for all public and private school students enrolled in participating Nonpublic Schools in the area served by the District (regardless of a student's residency). The attached spreadsheet includes enrollment numbers for both public and nonpublic districts/schools. See sample calculation below.

## SAMPLE OF FORMULA TO DETERMINE AMOUNT FOR TITLE II-A and IV-A EQUITABLE SERVICES ALLOCATIONS

8	EQUITABLE SERVICES ALLOCATIONS	
A. Nu	mber of Students Enrolled	3
A1	Public District Enrollment	9170
A2.1	Nonpublic #1 Enrollment	291
A2.2	Nonpublic #2 Enrollment	126
A2.3	Nonpublic #3 Enrollment	28
A2.4	Nonpublic #4 Enrollment	64
A2	Nonpublic Total Enrollment	509
A3	Total Enrollment Public & Nonpublic (A1 + A2)	9679
B. Tit	e II-A Allocations	
B1	Total District Allocation	\$300,000.00
B2	Admin. Costs (for Public & Nonpublic)	\$5,000.00
<b>B</b> 3	District Allocation minus Admin Costs (= B1 - B2)	\$295,000.00
C. Per	Pupil Rate	
C1:	B3 divided by A3	\$30.48
D. Eq	uitable Services	
D1	Amount District must reserve for equitable services for Nonpublic School teachers and other educational personnel (= A2 x C1)	\$15,513.48
E. Pul	olic District Allocation	
E1	Amount available for Public District teachers and other educational personnel (= B3 - D1)	\$279,486.52

Keep in mind that when NDE posts Title II-A and Title IV-A Equitable services amounts, the amounts DO NOT include any set-aside for administrative or indirect costs or funds transferred from Title II-A or IV-A into another ESEA program. When these are applied, the amount available for direct services for both public and nonpublic schools is reduced.

#### **CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT**

On November 21, 2016, USDE published Non-Regulatory Guidance regarding Fiscal Changes and Equitable Services Requirements. (Guidance available at: <u>Title VIII, Part F of the Elementary and</u> <u>Secondary Education Act Equitable Services Non-Regulatory Guidance 2023 (PDF)</u> The guidance indicates that the goal of consultation is agreement between the LEA (Local Education Agency) and appropriate nonpublic school officials on how to provide equitable and effective programs for eligible private school children.

Because of this requirement, a statement is included in Section 3 of the data collection, Certification Signatures. The statement, "I agree with the equitable and effective programs that will be implemented based on this consultation," is to be marked yes or no by the Nonpublic School Representative.

As consultations take place for the 2025 school year, it is highly recommended that both public and nonpublic schools consider completing Needs Assessments before the end of this school year to determine how federal funds will be utilized in the following year. A current Needs Assessment provides a good starting point when determining what activities federal funds will support.

#### What Takes Place During the Consultation?

The goal of the consultation process is to design and implement a program that will provide equitable services and meet the needs of the eligible nonpublic school students and/or teachers and other educational personnel. Consultation between the entity receiving federal financial assistance and nonpublic school officials must occur before any decision is made that could affect the ability of nonpublic school students, teachers, and other educational personnel to receive the benefits under ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) and must continue throughout the implementation and assessment of activities. Consultation generally must include discussion on such issues as:

- How the children's needs will be identified;
- What services will be offered;
- How, where, and by whom the services will be provided;
- How the services will be assessed and how the results of the assessment will be used to improve those services;
- The size and scope of the equitable services to be provided to the eligible nonpublic school children, teachers and other educational personnel, the amount of funds available for those services, and how that amount is determined;
- How and when the agency, consortium, or entity will make decisions about the delivery of services, including a thorough consideration and analysis of the views of the nonpublic school officials on the provision of services through potential third-party providers; and
- Whether the agency, consortium, or entity shall provide services directly or through a separate government agency, consortium, or entity, or through a third-party contractor; and
- Whether to provide equitable services to eligible nonpublic school children-
  - By creating a pool of funds with all of the funds allocated based on all the children from low-income families in a participating school attendance area who attend private schools; or

 In the agency's participating school attendance area who attend private schools with the proportion of funds allocated based on the number of children from low-income families who attend nonpublic schools.

For your convenience, NDE is providing a checklist that you may want to use during the ongoing consultation process. See attachment. The checklist will also be available on the NDE Federal Programs Website.

#### Transferability

An LEA may transfer the funds it receives under Title II-A and Title IV-A. Each program covered by the transferability authority is subject to the equitable services requirements under Title I or VIII, which may not be waived. (ESEA section 8401(c)(5).) Before an LEA may transfer funds from a program subject to equitable services requirements, it must engage in timely and meaningful consultation with the appropriate nonpublic school officials. (ESEA section 5103(e)(2).) With respect to transferred funds, the LEA must provide nonpublic students and teachers with equitable services under the program(s) to which the funds are transferred, based on the total amount of funds available to each program after the transfer.

In other words, the amount for equitable services CANNOT BE CALCULATED UNTIL THE ALLOCATION TRANSFER HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE LEA ON THE GRANT APPLICATION. (Done during the fall application period)

The amount of funds transferred from Title II-A into Title I will be added to the amount of funds used for determining allocations for Title I nonpublic services. See example calculations on the next page.

EXAMPLE: TITLE II-A CALCULATED BEFORE AIN TRANSFERS	FROM TITLE I-A
A. Number of Students	A. Number of Students
1374 A1: LEAEnrollment 320 A2 Participating NonpublicEnrollment	484 A1: Public Low Income S1uden1s
	38 A2: Nonpublic L ow-Income S1udents in Participaling Schools
16-94 A3: Total Enrollment= A1 + A2	522 A3: TotalEnrollment= A1 + A2
B. Title II Part A Allocation	B. Title t Part A Allocation
43,232 BI Total LEA Title II-A Allocation	\$267,562 BI Total LEA Allocation
82. 01/. Transferred to Title I	82. Amount Transfe11edhorn Title II-A to Title I-A
83. AdministrativeCosts(For public and nonpublic school programs)	\$287,582 B3. Total Amount Available for Title I Distribution
	C. Percentage of low-Income Students
43,232 B4: LEA Allocation Minus AdminCosts & Transferred Funds= B1-(B2+B3)	3
C. Per Pupil Rate	7.28% Cl Title I-A Nonpublic Proportional Percentage = A2+A3
\$25.52-C1: = B4+A3 0. Title II-A Equitable Services	32. 72% C2. Title I-A Public Proportional Percentage= A1 f A3
\$8,167 OI Title II-A amount LEA must reserve for equitable services for nonpublic	0. Equitable Services
\$25.065 02: Title II A amount available for services for public school teachers and	\$20,035 OL Amount LEA must reserve for Tille LNonpublic ScrOJices=C1X B1
43,232	\$266.647 02. Amountavailable for public school Title I SeJVi.ces=C2 X 81 <b>\$267,562</b>
	EXAMPLE: TITLE I CALCULATED AFTER DISTRICT TRANSFERS
	EXAMPLE: TITLE I CALCULATED AFTER DISTRICT TRANSFERS
EXAMPLE: TITLE II-A CALCULATED AFTER TRANSFERRING	100% FROM TITLE II-A TO TITLE I-A
100% TO TITLE I	A. Number of Students
A Number of Chudents	484 A1: Public Low Income Students
A. Number of Students	38A2: Nonpublic Low-Income Students in Pa, ticipating Schools
1374 A1: LEAEnrollment	
320 A2 Parlicipaling NonpublicEnrollmenl	522 A3: TotalEnrollment= A1 + A2
5-9 <sup>=-</sup> 4'- A3: TotalEnrollment= A1 + A2	B. Total A.Ilocation (Title I-A+ Transfer from Title II-A_
B. Title II Part A Allocation	\$287,582 BI Title I-A Allocation
43,232 BI Total LEA Title II-A Allocation	\$43,232 B2. Amount Transfe11edhorn Tide II-A to Title I-A
43,232 82. 501/. lo belransfe11ed lo Title I	\$330,614 B3. Total Amount Available Io, Title I Distribution
83. Administr.ative Costs(For public and nonpublic school p,ograms)	C. Percentage of Iow-Income Students
\$0 84: LEA Allocalion Minus AdminCosls 8r: Transfeired Funds= 81 - (82+ 83)	7.28% CI Nonpublic Proportional Percentage= A2 ; A3
C. Per Pupil Rate	92.72% C2. Public Proportional Percent:age= A1t A3
\$0.00 C1: = B4 + <b>A3</b>	100.00% O. Equitable Services
O. Title II-A Equitable Services  OI Tide II-A Equitable serve for equitable serOlices <b>fo</b> , nonpublic	
\$0 02: Title II-A amount available for services for public school teachers and	\$24,082 01. Amount LEA must reserve for Title I Nonpublic Services= C1 X B3
, <sup>‡</sup> O/ <sup>−</sup>	\$306,732 02. Amount available for public school Title I SerOJices = C2 X 83
	\$330,614