

Title IV

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Uses of Funds

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Summary: Title IV authorized activities must, among other requirements, meet the Principles of Effectiveness and be evaluated periodically. Safety uses have funding limitations.

Principles of Effectiveness

(1) In General

For a Title IV program or activity to meet the principles of effectiveness, such program or activity shall—

- A.** Be based on an assessment of objective data regarding the incidence of violence and illegal drug use in the elementary schools, secondary schools and communities to be served. This must include an objective analysis of the current conditions and consequences regarding violence and illegal drug use, including delinquency and serious discipline problems, among students who attend such schools (including private school students who participate in the drug and violence prevention program) that is based on ongoing local assessment or evaluation activities;
- B.** Be based on an established set of performance measures aimed at ensuring that the elementary schools, secondary schools and communities to be served by the program have a safe, orderly and drug-free learning environment;
- C.** Be based on scientifically based research that provides evidence that the program to be used will reduce violence and illegal drug use;
- D.** Be based on an analysis of the data reasonably available at the time of the prevalence of risk factors, including high or increasing rates of reported cases of child abuse and domestic violence; protective factors, buffers, assets; or other variables in schools and communities in the state identified through scientifically based research; and
- E.** Include meaningful and ongoing consultation with, and input from, parents in the development of the application and administration of the program or activity.

(2) Periodic Evaluation

- A. Requirement** The program or activity must undergo a periodic evaluation based on performance measures to assess its progress toward reducing violence and illegal drug use in schools to be served. These indicators for drug and violence prevention programs and activities must consist of specific reductions in the prevalence in identified risk factors and specific increases in the prevalence of protective factors, buffers, or assets if any have been identified, and levels of performance for each performance indicator.
- B. Use of Results** The results must be used to refine, improve and strengthen the program, and to refine the performance measures, and must also be made available to the public upon request, with public notice of such availability provided.

(3) Waiver

To allow innovative activities or programs that demonstrate substantial likelihood of success, a local educational agency may apply to the state for a waiver of the scientifically based requirement that the program must show evidence of reduction in violence or illegal drug use.

Local Educational Agency Activities

(1) Program Requirements

A local educational agency (LEA) must use Title IV funds to develop, implement and evaluate comprehensive programs and activities that are coordinated with other school and community-based services and programs, that—

- A.** Foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports academic achievement;
- B.** Are consistent with the principles of effectiveness.
- C.** Are designed to —
 - prevent or reduce violence; the use, possession and distribution of illegal drugs; and delinquency; and
 - create a well-disciplined environment conducive to learning, which includes consultation between teachers, principals and other school personnel to identify early warning signs of drug use and violence and to provide behavioral interventions as part of classroom management efforts; and
- D.** Include activities to—
 - promote the involvement of parents in the activity or program;
 - promote coordination with community groups and coalitions, and government agencies; and
 - distribute information about the LEA's needs, goals and programs under this subpart.

(2) Authorized Activities

Each LEA, or consortium of such agencies, that receives a Title IV grant may use such funds to carry out activities that comply with the principles of effectiveness such as the following:

- A.** Age appropriate and developmentally based activities that —
 - address the consequences of violence and the illegal use of drugs, as appropriate;
 - promote a sense of individual responsibility;
 - teach students that most people do not illegally use drugs;
 - teach students to recognize social and peer pressure to use drugs illegally and the skills for resisting illegal drug use;
 - teach students about the dangers of emerging drugs;
 - engage students in the learning process; and
 - incorporate activities in secondary schools that reinforce prevention activities implemented in elementary schools.

- B.** Activities that involve families, community sectors (which may include appropriately trained seniors) and a variety of drug and violence prevention providers in setting clear expectations against violence and illegal use of drugs and appropriate consequences for violence and illegal use of drugs.
- C.** Dissemination of drug- and violence-prevention information to schools and the community.
- D.** Professional development and training for, and involvement of, school personnel, pupil services personnel, parents and interested community members in prevention, education, early identification and intervention, mentoring, or rehabilitation referral, as related to drug and violence prevention.
- E.** Drug and violence prevention activities that may include the following:
 - community-wide planning and organizing activities to reduce violence and illegal drug use, which may include gang-activity prevention;
 - acquiring and installing metal detectors, electronic locks, surveillance cameras or other related equipment and technologies;
 - reporting criminal offenses committed on school property;
 - developing and implementing comprehensive school security plans or obtaining technical assistance concerning such plans, which may include obtaining a security assessment or assistance from the School Security and Technology Resource Center at the Sandia National Laboratory located in Albuquerque, N.M.;
 - supporting safe zones-of-passage activities that ensure that students travel safely to and from school, which may include bicycle and pedestrian safety programs;
 - the hiring and mandatory training, based on scientific research, of school security personnel (including school resource officers) who interact with students in support of youth drug- and violence-prevention activities under this part that are implemented in the school;
 - expanded and improved school-based mental health services related to illegal drug use and violence, including early identification of violence and illegal drug use, assessment, and direct or group counseling services provided to students, parents, families and school personnel by qualified school-based mental health service providers;
 - conflict resolution programs, including peer mediation programs that educate and train peer mediators and a designated faculty supervisor, and youth anti-crime and anti-drug councils and activities;
 - alternative education programs or services for violent or drug-abusing students that reduce the need for suspension or expulsion or that serve students who have been suspended or expelled from the regular educational settings, including programs or services to assist students to make continued progress toward meeting the state academic achievement standards and to reenter the regular education setting;
 - counseling, mentoring, referral services, and other student-assistance practices and programs, including assistance provided by qualified school-based mental health services providers and the training of teachers by school-based mental health services

- providers in appropriate identification and intervention techniques for students at risk of violent behavior and illegal use of drugs;
- programs that encourage students to seek advice from, and to confide in, a trusted adult regarding concerns about violence and illegal drug use;
 - drug and violence prevention activities designed to reduce truancy;
 - age-appropriate, developmentally based violence prevention and education programs that address victimization associated with prejudice and intolerance, and that include activities designed to help students develop a sense of individual responsibility and respect for the rights of others, and to resolve conflicts without violence;
 - consistent with the fourth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the testing of a student for illegal drug use or the inspecting of a student's locker for weapons or illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, including at the request of or with the consent of a parent or legal guardian of the student, if the LEA elects to so test or inspect;
 - emergency intervention services following traumatic crisis events, such as a shooting, major accident, or a drug-related incident that have disrupted the learning environment;
 - establishing or implementing a system for transferring suspension and expulsion records, consistent with section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g), by a LEA to any public or private elementary school or secondary school;
 - developing and implementing character education programs, as a component of drug and violence prevention programs, that take into account the views of parents of the students for whom the program is intended and such students, such as a program described in Title V as Partnerships in Character Education;
 - establishing and maintaining a school-safety hotline;
 - community service, including community service performed by expelled students and service-learning projects;
 - conducting a nationwide background check of each local educational agency employee, regardless of when hired, and prospective employees for the purpose of determining whether the employee or prospective employee has been convicted of a crime that bears upon the employee's fitness—
 - to be responsible for the safety or well-being of children;
 - to serve in the particular capacity in which the employee or prospective employee is or will be employed; or
 - to otherwise be employed by the LEA;
 - programs to train school personnel to identify warning signs of youth suicide and to create an action plan to help youth at risk of suicide;
 - programs that respond to the needs of students who are faced with domestic violence or child abuse.
- F.** The evaluation of any of the activities authorized under Title IV and the collection of objective data used to assess program needs, program implementation, or program success in achieving program goals and objectives.

Limitation on Safety Activities and Equipment

(1) In General

Except as provided in Paragraph 2 (below), not more than 40 percent of the Title IV funds available to a LEA may be used to carry out the following activities. Not more than 50 percent of such amount may be used to carry out the activities described in all but the last clause.

- Acquiring and installing metal detectors, electronic locks, surveillance cameras or other related equipment and technologies
- Reporting criminal offenses committed on school property
- Developing and implementing comprehensive school security plans or obtaining technical assistance concerning such plans, which may include obtaining a security assessment or assistance from the School Security and Technology Resource Center at the Sandia National Laboratory located in Albuquerque, N.M.
- Supporting safe zones-of-passage activities that ensure that students travel safely to and from school, which may include bicycle and pedestrian safety programs
- The hiring and mandatory training, based on scientific research, of school security personnel (including school resource officers) who interact with students in support of youth drug and violence prevention activities under this part that are implemented in the school

(2) Exception

A LEA may use funds under this subpart for activities described in clauses in (1) above only if funding for these activities is not received from other federal agencies.

School Uniform Policy

Nothing in *No Child Left Behind Act, Section 4115 (d), Rule of Construction* shall be construed to prohibit the use of funds under Title IV by any LEA or school for the establishment or implementation of a school uniform policy if such policy is part of the overall comprehensive drug and violence prevention plan of the state involved and is supported by the state's needs assessment and other scientifically based research information.