Education Funding: Title III, Part A

What do you need to know?

**What is it?**

Title III, Part A helps schools supplement their language instruction programs so students can gain proficiency in speaking, listening to, reading, and writing English. Schools are expected to hold limited English proficient students to the same challenging state standards in core subjects required of all students. As of 2015, nearly 10% of U.S. students enrolled in grades K–12 are English Learners (ELs).

**How are funds distributed?**

States distribute these federal funds to school districts according to a formula: 80% of the Title III allocation is based on the number of EL students served and up to 15% is based upon the number of immigrant students. The expenditure of these funds varies greatly by state, ranging from $87–$457, with a national average of $194 per qualifying student.

**What can be funded?**

Schools must use Title III funds to increase English proficiency of limited English proficient students by providing professional development and employing language instruction programs based on scientifically based research. In addition to professional development and instructional materials, funds can be used for personnel, educational technology, and for community and family literacy services.

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