

To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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DATE:	July 8, 2021
SUBJECT:	Information for Districts and Charter Schools Eligible for Title I, 1003
	(a) School Improvement Funding
CATEGORY:	Division of School Improvement Communication
NEXT STEPS:	Share with appropriate staff - Action may be required

The purpose of this letter is to provide local educational agencies (LEAs), including school districts and open-enrollment charter schools, with information regarding the 2021–2022 School Improvement Grant commitment to interventions, support, and funding form.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has submitted a request to the United States Department of Education (USDE) that would allow the agency to waive identifying a new cohort of campuses for federal identifications during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, waiving this requirement does not allow the agency to exit campuses or remove federal school improvement labels for 2021–2022. Current Comprehensive campuses identified solely by the graduation rate criteria will have an opportunity to exit if the campuses meet the graduation exit rate criteria. Therefore, the Comprehensive, Targeted, and Additional Targeted labels will not appear on any August 2021 accountability reports published on the TEA website. The TEA and the Division of School Improvement have also updated grant options for Title I, Part A-served campuses currently identified in the federal accountability system.

Opt In to Interventions, Supports, and Non-Competitive Funding

- Title I, Part A-served Comprehensive Campuses

The Division of School Improvement will offer a non-competitive grant for LEAs with at least one Title I, Part A-served Comprehensive Support and Improvement identified campus that received the Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant in the 2020–2021 school year. LEAs must submit a commitment to engage in interventions and support, and receive 2021-2022 Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant funding. Interventions could include the development and submission of a Targeted Improvement Plan, progress monitoring, and support from the Division of School Improvement. Each campus that opts in to continue interventions will receive an allocation of at least \$10,000, and the LEA will be able to retain any unused funds as carryover from the 2020–2021 Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant.

LEAs that do not submit this commitment to interventions will not have a 2021-2022 Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant application post in the eGrants system. LEAs that do not opt in to receive interventions, support and 2021-2022 Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant funds will not have access to carryover funds from the 2020–2021 school year.

The 2021–2022 Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant will follow a typical schedule, with the grant expected to be posted to the TEA Grants Opportunities Page on September 13, 2021.

LEAs applying for funding from the 2021–2022 Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant must submit their commitment to interventions and support via the survey link found here by July 23, 2021, <a href="regardless of completion of an earlier interest survey.

Key Points

 For the 2021–2022 School Year, LEAs with Comprehensive Support and Improvement campuses that received allotments in the 2020–2021 School Improvement Grant will have the opportunity to opt in and commit to interventions, support, a non-competitive School Improvement Grant funding allocation and access to carry over funds 2020-2021.

Contact Information

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