

## Eastern Lancaster County School District "Empowering learners as global thinkers and producers."

## **ELANCO Title I Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What is Title I?

Title I is a Federal Act that provides funds to school districts. The funds are used to develop programs to help support students at risk of school failure.

### How is the money distributed?

The amount of money a district receives is based on the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunch.

## Can the money be used only for students who are economically disadvantaged?

No. In fact, Title I does not receive the names of those families. Title I programs serve those who are educationally at risk according to district screening.

## What are the Title I programs at ELANCO?

- **Start Right** is a kindergarten and first grade program. Staff provide in-class support and intervention in Reading and Math to eligible children
- **Take Off** is a program in grades 2-6. Staff provides small group intervention in Reading and Math to learners who are eligible.

#### Who is eligible to receive Title I services?

Each school year the district screens all learners in Reading and Math using multiple assessments. Learners who score at the 25th percentile or below on these measures for Reading and/or Math are eligible for the Title I program.

## What assessments are used to determine eligibility for Title I?

The assessments used this year to determine if a child is eligible are described in the chart below. Learners who score at the 25th percentile or below on both Reading assessments and/or both Math assessments are eligible for Title I. For more information please contact your child's teacher.

	Reading	Math
Grade K	FastBridge aReading- is a computer adaptive test which measures broad reading abilities and is aligned to the Core Standards.	FastBridge aMath- is a computer adaptive test which measures broad math abilities and is aligned to the Core Standards.
	Acadience First Sound Fluency- is an individually administered early reading test that measures how well learners can hear and produce first sounds in words. (phonemic awareness)	FastBridge Numeral Identification- is an individually administered test which measures the learner's ability to correctly identify the names of numbers.
Grade 1	FastBridge aReading- is a computer adaptive test which measures broad reading abilities and is aligned to the Core Standards.	FastBridge aMath- is a computer adaptive test which measures broad math abilities and is aligned to the Core Standards.
	Acadience Nonsense Word Fluency- is an individually	FastBridge Decomposing- is an individually



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	administered test which measures the ability to say sounds of letters and blend them into words.	administered test which measures the ability of learners to put together and take apart numbers using parts and whole.
Grades 2-6	FastBridge aReading- is a computer adaptive test which measures broad reading abilities and is aligned to the Core Standards.	FastBridge aMath- is a computer adaptive test which measures broad math abilities and is aligned to the Core Standards.
	Acadience Oral Reading Fluency- is an individually administered test which measures how fluently and accurately a learner reads a text.	FastBridge Math Automaticity- is a timed test which measures mastery of math facts.

### If my child qualifies for Title I, will they always be in Title I?

No. The Title I program runs on a year to year basis. You will be notified by letter each year if your child qualifies for Title I or if your child is exiting the program.

## Who decides what programs Title I will fund?

The decision about how Title I money is spent is a collaborative process. The Title I staff communicate with parents, classroom teachers, administrators, and Title I students. This is done at each school building through parent advisory committees, surveys, parent and teacher meetings, events, and mailings. Stakeholders share information and respond to surveys about effectiveness of Title I programs. This information is considered in the drafting of the application that must be submitted every year to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Federal Programs.

#### What are the responsibilities of parents?

Parents have a large role in Title I. They are informed by letter of their child's eligibility for Title I and have the option of accepting or declining the service for their child. Parents are invited to Title I meetings, conferences and/or workshops annually. They receive reports about their child's progress and suggestions for how they might help the child at home. Children whose parents are involved have a much better rate of success.

## How can a parent of a child in the Title I program become involved?

Parents can become involved by:

- Learning all you can about the program and your child's performance from the classroom teacher and Title I staff.
- Asking the classroom teacher and Title I staff how to support your child at home.
- Attending meetings and Title I events, if possible.
- Taking part in the annual Title I survey to share your views about how the program is working.
- Taking time regularly to talk with your child about how things are going in school and making it clear that you are proud of your child's efforts.
- Serving on your school's committees.

#### How can parents learn more?

Contact your building Title I Support Specialists, Building Principal, or Director of Elementary Instruction. Information about Title I can also be found on the district website.