

TITLE I

What is Title 1?

Title I Part A of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides financial assistance to districts and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. ([Title I Part A - Federal Grant Programs](#))

How Do Schools Receive Title I Funds?

The federal government provides funding to each state. Districts in Massachusetts apply to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for Title I funds. The number of low-income students attending each school is the determining factor for how much money each school will receive. MERSD qualifies for *Targeted Assistance Programs* (less than 40% of its students are eligible for Free and/or Reduced Meals.) Targeted assistance schools design an instructional program to meet the needs of students who are failing or most at risk of failing to meet Massachusetts' academic achievement standards.

Which schools receive Title 1 funds in the Manchester Essex Regional School District?

Schools identified as receiving Title I financial support are determined by percentages of low-income families within the school enrollment. Currently, Essex Elementary qualifies as receiving Title 1 assistance.

How do students qualify for Title 1 support?

Each district must have a procedure outlining the process used in targeted assistance schools to identify students most at-risk of failing to meet achievement standards on the basis of multiple, educationally related, objective criteria established by the district and supplemented by the school. Once students are identified as qualifying for Title 1 assistance, the school reaches out to families with the offer of support.

Right to Know - Essex Elementary School

As a school that receives federal Title I funds, you have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether your child's teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver
- The college degree and major of your child's teacher
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications?

If parents/guardians want to request information about your child's teachers, please reach out to your building principal.

Overview information from MA Department of Education:

- [Title I: An Introduction](#)

- [Understanding Title I Programs: Targeted Assistance and Schoolwide](#) (MERSD is a Targeted Assistance District)