Application for Schoolwide Poverty Threshold Waiver

Title I, Part A Schoolwide Program Eligibility

Citation: Under Section 1114(a)(1)(B) of the Every Student Succeeds Act, the State may waive the requirement that a school have at least 40 percent poverty to be eligible to run a Schoolwide program.

Instructions: A) Respond to Local Education Agency Information
B) Complete the Waiver Rationale
C) Complete Certification
D) Attach and email a PDF copy of the Poverty Threshold Waiver and the Schoolwide Plan to be implemented during the waiver year to Titlel@doe.k12.ga.us and copy the LEAs Title I, Part A Program Specialist.

Section A: LEA Information

- **Name of District** Jefferson City Schools
- **Name of School** Jefferson Academy
- **School Year the School is Requesting to Operate as a Schoolwide School** 2026-27
- **FY26 Poverty Percentage:** 31.02% **FY27 Poverty Percentage:** 33.48%
- **Check all boxes as applicable:**
  - ☒ The school is currently served as a Schoolwide Program (SWP).
  - ☐ The school is currently served as a Targeted Assistance Program (TAP).
  - ☐ The school has never been served as a Title I School.
  - ☐ The school is currently not being served as a Title I School, but has perviously been served as a Title I School in the following capacity: ☐ SWP ☐ TAP
  - ☐ The school will be participating in the Consolidation of Funds (Fund 150).

Section B Part 1: Waiver Rationale

Describe the need and rationale for this Schoolwide Poverty Threshold Waiver. Address why and how the need(s) cannot be met without a schoolwide program.

Type your response here:
Although our school's poverty percentage is below the 40% threshold required for automatic eligibility, the academic and educational needs of our students support the implementation of a Title I Schoolwide Program. The school is implementing districtwide initiatives focused on strengthening literacy and mathematics instruction through a comprehensive MTSS framework, universal screening, data-driven decision-making, and evidence-based interventions. A schoolwide Title I program will provide the flexibility to align these initiatives with Title I resources, ensuring timely interventions, high-quality professional learning, and consistent instructional supports that benefit students with the greatest academic needs while strengthening the overall instructional program.

Section C Part 2: Schoolwide Plan

Attach copy of Schoolwide Program (SWP) plan to be implemented during the waiver year. The SWP should include all ESSA Section 1114 requirements.

Section D: Certification

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREBY CERTIFY that to the best of our knowledge and information we have complied with all components in our Title I Schoolwide Program and have developed our plan based on needs and strengths identified through a comprehensive analysis of current academic and non-academic data. We have built into our plan a process for evaluating whether the strategies implemented are resulting in improved academic achievement, and we will adhere to all assurances.

Signature of School Principal: _____ Date: 7/29/26

Signature of Title I, Part A Director: Jaym Smith Date: 7/28/26

Signature of Superintendent: _____ Date: 7/29/26

GaDOE Review and Approval (GaDOE use only)

The GaDOE Coordinated Programs team has reviewed the school's application and Schoolwide Plan and approves the school to operate as a Schoolwide Program as defined in ESEA Section 1114 for the school year identified on this application.

Signature of Coordinated Programs Specialist: Gina King Date: July 31. 2026

Signature of Coordinated Programs Program Manager: Kelli Kendick Date: 8/3/2026

Attach this approved application to the Title I Tab in the Consolidated Application for the fiscal year the school will operate as a Schoolwide Program.

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Section A: LEA Information

- **Name of District** Jefferson City Schools
- **Name of School** Jefferson Elementary
- **School Year the School is Requesting to Operate as a Schoolwide School** 2026-27
- **FY26 Poverty Percentage:** 30.14% **FY27 Poverty Percentage:** 30.65%
- **Check all boxes as applicable:**
  - ☒ The school is currently served as a Schoolwide Program (SWP).
  - ☐ The school is currently served as a Targeted Assistance Program (TAP).
  - ☐ The school has never been served as a Title I School.
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Signature of School Principal: _____ Date: 7.28.26

Signature of Title I, Part A Director: Taylor Smith Date: 7/28/26

Signature of Superintendent: _____ Date: 7/28/26

GaDOE Review and Approval (GaDOE use only)

The GaDOE Coordinated Programs team has reviewed the school's application and Schoolwide Plan and approves the school to operate as a Schoolwide Program as defined in ESEA Section 1114 for the school year identified on this application.

Signature of Coordinated Programs Specialist: Gina King Date: July 31. 2026

Signature of Coordinated Programs Program Manager: Kelli Kendick Date: 8/3/2026

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