

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Title 1

OVERVIEW

In 1965, the United States Congress passed the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to improve the quality of education in the United States. Since the initial authorization, Congress has added to and reauthorized the act four times. The 2000 Reauthorization is best known as the No Child Left Behind Act of Educational Improvement. This latest reauthorization has brought broad changes to the Federal Government's role in education across the United States. The No Child Left Behind Act has created a focused system which holds all states, school districts and individual schools who receive Title I funding to strict rules and regulations.

Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act remains the largest federal aid program for education in the country. To receive these funds from the federal government each state must submit a detailed plan describing what all children are expected to know, the standards of performance that all students are expected to meet, as well as ways to measure students' progress. The Louisiana Department of Education allocates money to the Ascension Parish Public School District based on the number of low income families living in the parish. The district sends funds to schools with highest percentage of free and reduced lunch. These schools identify students most in need of educational help, set annual goals for improvement, measure student success, develop programs that add to the regular education programs, and collaboratively work with parents in all aspects of their child's education. Both the district and school plans are evaluated annually by parents, administrators, and teachers. The district and the schools revise their plans every year to best meet the needs of students.

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