

Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) Funds Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions:

- ***What is the purpose of Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds?***

The purpose of Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds is to award Title I schools identified as Priority, Focus, or Opportunity funds that will be used to support implementation of school improvement activities outlined in their school improvement plans. Funds are awarded to the districts on behalf of the schools identified as Priority, Focus, or opportunity.

- ***Which schools are eligible to receive Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds?***

Title I schools identified as Priority, Focus, or Opportunity are eligible for Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds based on a formula grant.

- ***How much funding do schools receive?***

For FY 2016-2017, all schools received a base of \$33,000. Non-SIG Priority and Focus Schools received additional funds based on each school's designation. Non-SIG Priority schools received a supplement based on the size of the school. Funds vary from year to year.

- ***When is the last day of the grant award period?***

The grant award period ends September 30, 2017.

- ***What are examples of allowable expenses?***

Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds are to be used to support implementation of school improvement activities related to the reason for the school's designation and the needs identified in the needs assessment. These funds adhere to the same guidelines for spending as other Title I, Part A funds.

Allowable expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Support of the improvement work at the school level. Funds cannot support district level work.
- Resources directly linked to instruction and the areas that caused the school to be identified as Priority, Focus, or Opportunity.
- Resources that build capacity in the effective implementation of the Standards.
- Resources to scaffold instruction for the most academically at-risk students.
- Funds that provide additional instructional support in areas such as:



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- Personnel, such as instructional coaches, tutors and reading specialists personnel benefits
- Instructional materials
- Professional learning opportunities for staff
- Purchase of software and/or hardware and the associated professional learning to support how to use the resources for instructional purposes.
- Consultants that target curriculum, teaching methods, and resources that improve student achievement.

Additional questions about allowable expenses should be communicated to the district Title I director, Title I area specialist, or Division of School and District Effectiveness specialist.

- ***Am I allowed to carryover SI 1003(a) funds?***

There is no carryover of Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds.

- ***What documents are reviewed before funding is approved?***

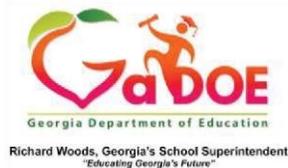
The documents that are reviewed are the aggregated district budget AND each school's justification of expenses, improvement plan, and comprehensive needs assessment. In addition, school improvement activities entered in the Indistar platform will be reviewed.

- ***How will the funds be monitored during the year?***

- The Georgia Department of Education School and District Effectiveness staff will send draw-down reports to Title I Directors.
- School and District Effectiveness and RESA staff will provide ongoing technical support to schools and districts during the year in reference to the school's status of spending Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds.
- School improvement funds support implementation of work related to the school improvement plan. The school improvement activities entered in the Indistar platform will be reviewed.
- The New Uniform Grant Guidance 2 CFR 200 requires districts to establish systems of internal control and fiscal monitoring related to Title I funding including School Improvement 1003(a) funds.

- ***What if I am unable to spend all the awarded funds?***

Unspent funds remain with the Georgia Department of Education.



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- ***Can Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) funds be used for any content or are they limited to ELA and Math?***

Funds can be spent to address the reason for the school's designation and the needs identified in the needs assessment. Please consult with the District Title I Director for allowable expenses and specific information related to your school.

- ***What if I want to know more about Title I, Part A, School Improvement 1003(a) Funds?***

Please send an email to Dr. Gary C. Wenzel at gwenzel@doe.k12.ga.us.