

# Rural Education Initiative Program Helps with Designing Pathways for Success

## Title Programs Conference

June 13-14, 2018  
Cathy Buescher



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# Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement



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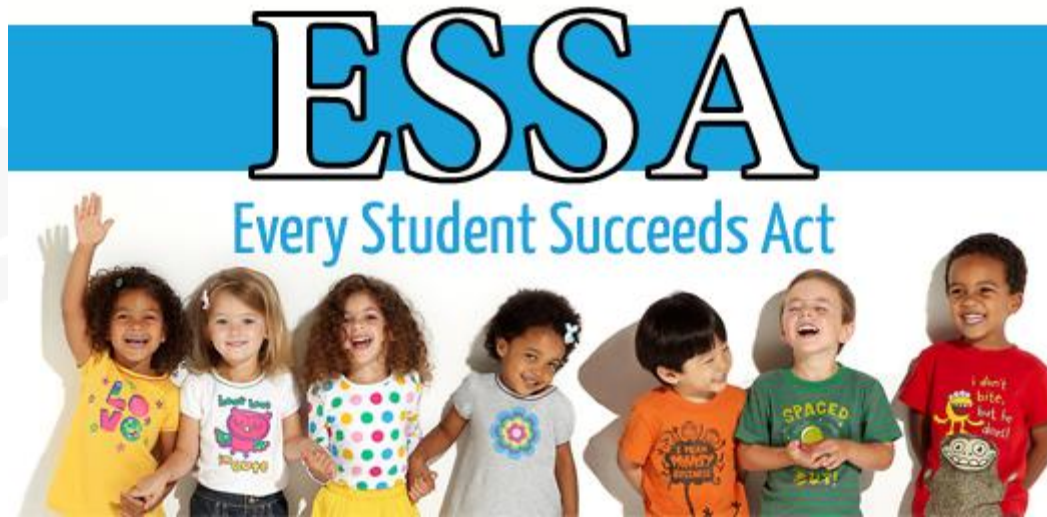
# PURPOSE and OVERVIEW

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# Purpose and Overview



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- December 2015: Congress re-authorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965.
- Re-authorization is known as the Every Student Succeeds Act, or ESSA (PL114-95).



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# Purpose and Overview

- The ESSA supersedes the version of the ESEA known as No Child Left Behind or NCLB.
- The REAP program continues under ESEA.
- REAP provisions are found under Title V, Part B of the ESEA, as amended. You can read the law here:

<https://www2.ed.gov/documents/essa-act-of-1965.pdf>

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# Purpose and Overview

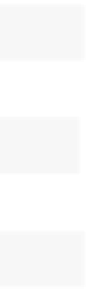
The purpose of the Title V, Part B Rural Education Initiative is to address the unique needs of rural districts that frequently:

1. Lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for federal competitive grants; and
2. Receive formula grant allocations in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.

# Purpose and Overview

- The RLIS Program targets rural LEAs that serve large numbers of low-income students.
  - The United States Department of Education (USED) makes allocations to the State, who in turn makes sub-grants to eligible LEAs.
- The SRSA Program provides funds to very small, rural LEAs.
  - USED awards these grants directly to eligible LEAs.
  - SRSA-eligible LEAs also qualify for Alternative Fund Use Authority [Section 5221(a)&(c)] that provides additional flexibility in how they can expend federal education funds.

# Eligibility



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# Eligibility



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Rural Education Initiative includes two programs:

- Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) *[Section 5211]*
- Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS) *[Section 5221]*

Local educational agencies (LEAs) must meet specific criteria in order to be eligible for either of the two programs. ***NEW: Some districts may be eligible for both and in this case, the LEA must choose between the two programs.***



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# SRSA Eligibility

Under NCLB	Under ESSA (Beginning FY18)
1. Total number in average daily attendance at all of the schools served by the LEA is fewer than 600; <b>AND</b>	1. SAME  <b>AND</b>
2. All schools designated with locale codes of 7 or 8.	2. All schools designated with locale codes of 41, 42, or 43.
3. NA	3. If an LEA is a member of an educational service agency that does not receive SRSA funds, and the LEA meets the SRSA requirement 1 and 2, the LEA is eligible to receive SRSA funds.



# DUAL Eligibility

## Under NCLB

1. An LEA that was eligible for SRSA could not choose to participate in RLIS instead of SRSA. Therefore, LEAs could not be eligible for both the SRSA and RLIS grant.
2. REAP-Flex was only an option for SRSA grantees and did not apply to any RLIS grantees.

## Under ESSA (Beginning FY18)

1. LEAs can be eligible for both SRSA and RLIS and must choose one grant under which to receive funds in a given fiscal year.
2. Dual-eligible LEAs that choose to participate in RLIS may exercise the **Alternative Fund Use Authority**. All grantees wishing to use the Alternative Fund Use Authority must notify SEAs by the date established by the SEAs. **NOTE:** LEAs eligible for only RLIS cannot exercise the Alternative Fund Use Authority.



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# Hold Harmless

Under NCLB	Under ESSA (Beginning FY18)
NA	LEAs that are not eligible for the SRSA grant, as a result of changes in the district's locale code designation, and who are also NOT dually eligible for RLIS, will receive a reduced award in years 2018, 2019, and 2020.

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# SRSA Annual Application Process



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## Prior to FY18

LEAs needed only apply once to receive SRSA grant funds each fiscal year thereafter.

## Effective FY18

Eligible LEAs will need to submit an application for the SRSA grant **each fiscal year** to receive grant funds. If an LEA does not submit an SRSA application by the established deadline, the LEA will not receive an SRSA grant for that year.

**Application period:**  
**May 1, 2017-June 30, 2017**







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# FUND THE PLAN

- Funds should be used to fund district or school initiatives based on needs identified in the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA).
- Funds should supplement what is provided by other local, state and federal resources.
- Funds should never “stand alone” but be used for activities that address needs identified in the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA).
- Funds should be budgeted in collaboration with other federal programs.

# COORDINATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS



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# COORDINATION



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- Title V, Part B funds should extend or enhance the activities of other federal programs when needed.
- Title V, Part B program activities should be planned in coordination and collaboration with the district leadership team.
- Collaboration will increase the effectiveness of the program by avoiding duplications and working together to maximize funds for programs that benefit students.

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# ALLOCATIONS



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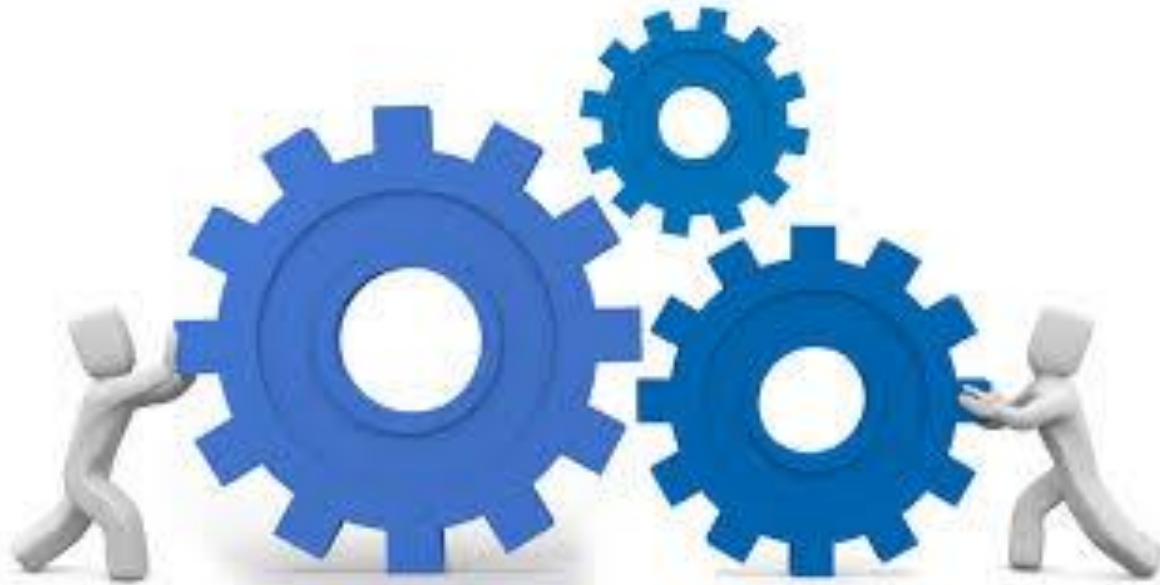
- USED awards SRSA funds directly to eligible LEAs on the basis of a statutory formula.
- USED awards RLIS funds by formula to GaDOE, which in turn make sub-grants to LEAs by formula.
- Allocations must be State Board approved and are awarded to LEAs in early Fall (*USED promises earlier award for FY19*).
- Twenty-five percent carryover is allowed from one fiscal year to the next.
- In a given fiscal year, carryover funds must be expended first, followed by 75% of the current fiscal year allocation.
- Grant award period is from July 1 through September 30.



# IMPLEMENTATION



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# SRSA & RLIS Use of Funds

## Title Programs that SRSA and RLIS Funds May Support



SRSA	RLIS
<b>Title I, Part A</b> (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs)	<b>Title I, Part A</b> (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs)
<b>Title II, Part A</b> (Improving Teacher Quality)	<b>Title II, Part A</b> (Improving Teacher Quality)
<b>Title III</b> (Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students)	<b>Title III</b> (Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students)
<b>Title IV, Part A</b> (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)	<b>Title IV, Part A</b> (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)
<b>Title IV, Part B</b> (21 <sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers)	Parent Involvement Activities
Under the <b>Alternative Use of Funds</b> authority, LEAs may consolidate any and all Title II-A and Title IV-A funding for allowable activities permissible under REAP-eligible Title programs. [ESEA, Title V, Part B Section 5211)	

# RLIS Use of Funds Changes

## Difference in permissible uses of RLIS grant funds



Under NCLB	Under ESSA (beginning FY18)
<p><b>Title I, Part A</b> (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs)</p>	<p><b>Title I, Part A</b> (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs)</p>
<p>Teacher recruitment and retention, including the use of signing bonuses and other financial incentives</p>	<p><b>No longer applicable</b></p>
<p><b>Title II, Part D</b> (Educational Technology State Grants)</p>	<p><b>No longer applicable</b></p>
<p><b>Title III</b> (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students)</p>	<p>SAME</p>
<p><b>Title IV, Part A</b> (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities)</p>	<p><b>Title IV, Part A</b> (Student Support and Academic Enrichment)</p>
<p>Parental Involvement activities</p>	<p>SAME</p>
<p>Teacher professional development, including programs that train teachers to use technology to improve teaching and that train teachers of students with special needs.</p>	<p><b>Title II, Part A</b> (improving teacher Quality State Grants)</p>

# Supplement Not Supplant



**Local, State and  
Other Federal Funds**



**Title V, Part B  
Supplements all other  
funding sources**

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# Supplement Not Supplant

## Part B Rural Education Initiative

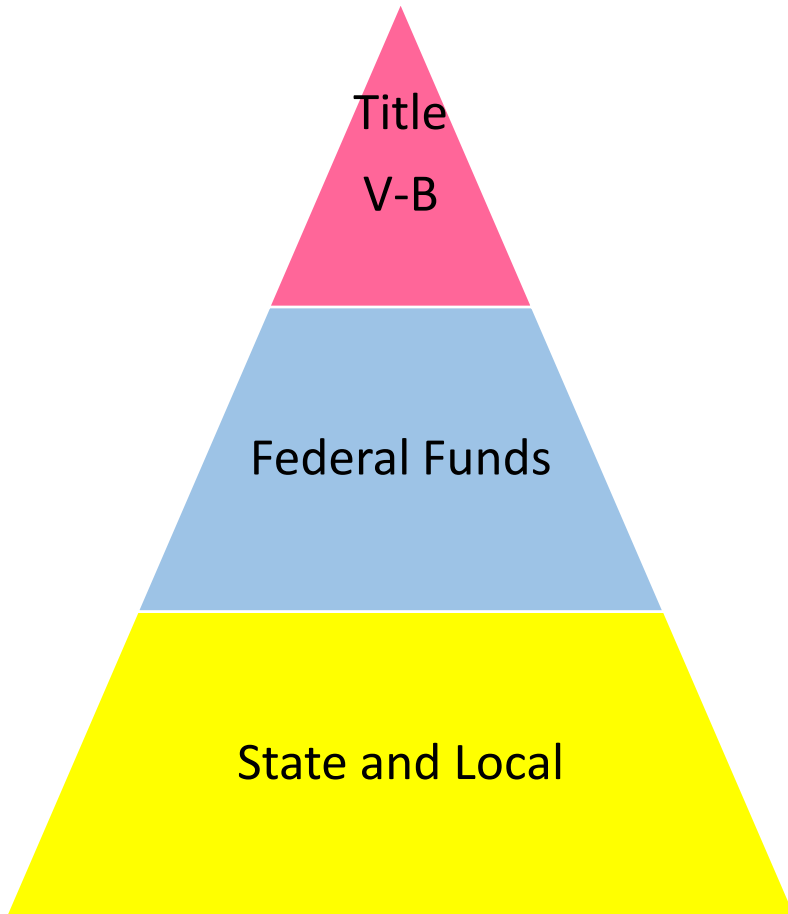
Funds made available under subpart 1 or subpart 2 shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, any other federal, state or local education funds.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Section 5232

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# Supplement Not Supplant



# BUDGETING REQUIREMENTS



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# Original Budgets

## Budget Pages



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- Detailed budget descriptions.
- Descriptions cannot be general and open ended or use the words "such as" "etc."
- Budget figures must align with selected activities on Rural Education Initiative tab.
- Quantity and cost per unit needed for all equipment items.
- Budget for audit costs, if applicable.

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# Originals Budgets

## Rural Education Initiative Page



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- Complete via Rural Education Initiative tab within the Program Information tab.
- Enter the anticipated expenditures for each activity the LEA will implement.
- The figures on this page must align with the budget and represent the LEA's anticipated expenditures.
- This page must be updated with each amendment.
- The selected activities from the Rural Education Initiative page must align with the activities reported on the Annual Evaluation Report.

# INDIRECT COST



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- Allowable expense.
- Optional for the LEA.
- Must be calculated using the LEAs approved rate.
- Must be calculated using the indirect cost formula.
- Indirect Cost Worksheet simplifies calculation.
- Budget in function 2300, object code 880.

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# SINGLE AUDIT COST

- Allowable expense.
- Covers the audit cost for this federal program.
- Estimate cost based on previous fiscal year's cost.
- Budget in function 2300, object code 300.



# BUDGET AMENDMENTS



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- Amendments should be processed and approved locally.
- Amendments are required to budget in carryover funds. Carryover of 25% is allowed.
- Amendments are required to be submitted to GaDOE when there is:
  - A change in the scope of project activities.
  - A 25% or more change in a function code.

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# BUDGET MONITORING



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- Approved budget must be entered into local operating budget software.
- Program coordinator has responsibility to monitor expenditures.
- Expenditures occur AFTER budget approval.
- Communication with finance director is essential to properly and accurately monitor the budget throughout the year.

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# FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS



# Code of Federal Regulations

2 C.F.R. Part 200 - Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Rewards



<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=557343f4408abda991a2d619453bf6fa&mc=true&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5>

# CROSS FUNCTIONAL MONITORING



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# CROSS FUNCTIONAL MONITORING



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- Required by federal regulations.
- Title VI, Part B is part of the cross functional monitoring, operating on a four year cycle.
- May be monitored more frequently, as needed.

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# ANNUAL EVALUATION



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# Annual Evaluation Report

## Due October 30



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- Complete via Data Collection tab within Program Information tab.
- Select "Yes" or "No" for each of the seven activities.
- Report actual expenditures for each program activity the LEA participated in and for which "Yes" was chosen.
- Report expenditures in whole dollars based on the Program Completion Report.
- Performance data will be prepared by GaDOE.
- Requires Coordinator and Superintendent submit.

# DATA COLLECTION TAB



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**Consolidated Application**

Fiscal Year : 2014  
Status : New (Date: Sep 10 2013 12:56PM)

Program : Title VI-B, Rural and Low Income - Original  
Superintendent Sign off date :

Program Information Budget Audit Trail Assurances Programs

Rural Education Initiative

Data Collection

Print | Save | Submit | Request Revision

Select Data Collection Form: Title VI B Reap Evaluation

**Title VI, PART B(REAP)**

LEAs receiving Title VI, Part B fund must indicate each of the activities in which Title VI, Part B funds were spent and report the amount in whole dollars. Each activity must have been previously approved in your Consolidated Application. This report should reflect expenditures for the 2012 - 2013 school year.

Activities	District Participation	Title VI, Part B Funds Expended
<b>Activity 1:</b> Teacher recruitment and retention, including the use of signing bonuses and other financial incentives. <b>Title II, Part A</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="text"/>
<b>Activity 2:</b> Teacher professional development, including programs that train teachers to utilize technology to improve teaching and to train special needs teachers. <b>Title II, Part A</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="text"/>
<b>Activity 3:</b> Educational technology, including software and hardware, as described in Title II, Part D. ( <b>Enhanced Education Through Technology</b> )	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="text"/>
<b>Activity 4:</b> Parental involvement activities. <b>Title V, Part A</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="text"/>
<b>Activity 5:</b> Activities authorized under Title IV, Part A. ( <b>Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities</b> )	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="text"/>
<b>Activity 6:</b> Activities authorized under <b>Title I, Part A</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="text"/>
<b>Activity 7:</b> Activities authorized under Title III, Part A ( <b>Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students</b> )	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="text"/>

Done

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# RURAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE TAB



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## Consolidated Application

**Fiscal Year :** 2014  
**Status :** New (Date: Sep 10 2013 12:56PM)

**Program :** Title VI-B, Rural and Low Income - Original  
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Program Information Budget Audit Trail Assurances Programs

Rural Education Initiative Data Collection

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### Title VI-B Rural Education Initiative

Rural and Low Income School Program: Check the Allocations to determine if your LEA is eligible. Funds may be used for any of the seven activities provided your school system has made AYP. If your school system did not make AYP and you have received three years of Title VI, Part B funds, you must use all of your allocation to address the specific weaknesses that resulted in your failure to make AYP. If your school system did not make AYP and is in Needs Improvement, the specific accountability requirements in Section 1116 take effect. Such LEAs must spend their Title VI, Part B funds for activities that support the improvement plan that they developed under Section 1116. Complete the requested information to indicate the activities to be funded. The total must equal the allocation.

Activity Anticipated Expenditure

**Activity 1:**  
Teacher recruitment and retention, including the use of signing bonuses and other financial incentives. Title II, Part A

**Activity 2:**  
Teacher professional development, including programs that train teachers to utilize technology to improve teaching and to train special needs teachers. Title II, Part A

**Activity 3:**  
Educational technology, including software and hardware, as described in Title II, Part D (Enhanced Education Through Technology).

**Activity 4:**  
Parental involvement activities. Title V, Part A

**Activity 5:**  
Activities authorized under Title IV, Part A (Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities)

**Activity 6:**  
Activities authorized under Title I, Part A

**Activity 7:**

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# BUDGET PAGES



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Georgia Department of Education Consolidated Application

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**Consolidated Application**

**Budget** Application > Programs

**District Name :** Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental  
**Fiscal Year :** 2014  
**Status :** New (Date: Sep 10 2013 12:56PM)

**District Code :** 897  
**Program :** Title VI-B, Rural and Low Income - Original  
**Superintendent Sign off date :**

Program Information | **Budget** | Audit Trail | Assurances | Programs

**Print** | Sign-Off | Request Revision | Create Amendment

**Program :** Title VI-B, Rural and Low Income

<b>Current FY Allocation :</b>	\$0.00
<b>Additional Allocation :</b>	\$0.00
<b>Carry Over :</b>	\$0.00
<b>Total Grant Award :</b>	\$0.00
<b>Transfer Amount :</b>	\$0.00
<b>Total Amount to be Budgeted :</b>	\$0.00

**Not Budgeted Funds :** \$0.00

**Budget Detail** [Show ALL](#)

Fiscal Year	From Program	School	To Sub-Grant	To Program	Function	Object	Units	Price	Amount	Description
<b>Total :</b>										\$0

Done

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# AUDIT TRAILS



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**Consolidated Application**

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**District Name :** Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental      **District Code :** 897  
**Fiscal Year :** 2014      **Program :** Title VI-B, Rural and Low Income - Original  
**Status :** New (Date: Sep 10 2013 12:56PM)      **Superintendent Sign off date :**

Program Information    Budget    **Audit Trail**    Assurances    Programs    Print

Data Collection Audit Trail      Budget Audit Trail

**Audit Trail**

Old Status	New Status	Changed By	Changed Date

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# Questions?



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# Presenter

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**Georgia Department of Education**

**Title V, Part B Program Specialist**

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