Title IIA Guidance Document (GD) 2: Updated Nonpublic Equitable Service Amounts

Questions and Answers: Changes to Nonpublic Equitable Service Amounts
Updated Process for Determining Equitable Service Amounts Starting School Year 2015-2016
April 2015

GD2-1 What changes are being made to Ohio's Title IIA equitable service process and why?
A. Currently, districts consult with their private schools and offer the schools at a minimum as much in services as they received in the previous year. The state is not collecting this data, the district may not have a complete understanding of how to calculate private school service amounts, and private schools may be unaware of the total service amounts to which they are entitled.

Starting in school year 2015-2016, annually the Ohio Department of Education will calculate a hold harmless level (per-pupil minimum service amount) for participating private schools based on its current enrollment. Districts are then required to calculate a per-pupil service amount based on their current enrollment and what the district spent for Title IIA professional development the previous year. The district should offer participating private schools the higher of 1) the hold harmless (minimum) per-pupil amount or 2) the per-pupil amount based on the professional development expenditures.

- Special Note: For school year 2015-2016 only, the department will allow districts to use the higher of the minimum amount or what the district budgets in professional development in their Fiscal Year 2016 CCIP Consolidated Application for Title IIA. The department is developing clear guidance for districts on reporting professional development expenditures for Title IIA.

GD2-2 When will the district know the service amounts to offer participating private schools?
A. The department will provide, in early spring each year, the minimum service amounts for participating private schools. The district should meet with participating private schools to review its minimum amount and compare it to the amount based on Title IIA expenditures for professional development (for school year 2015-2016, the district may use the budgeted amount). Participating private schools should be told their service amounts.

GD2-3 Will the department of education collect the district's equitable service amounts?
A. Yes, the districts will be required to report to the department the final per-pupil equitable service amounts that will be offered to participating private schools. The department enhanced the CCIP Consolidated Application Title IIA Nonpublic Services Page to display the equitable service amount of each participating in-district nonpublic school. The districts will have to budget the total of all nonpublic schools calculated service amounts on the nonpublic budget line in the IIA budget.

GD2-4 How will private schools know what services they may receive?
A. The updated process for determining equitable service amounts for Title IIA ensures transparency, and every private school will be provided with the service amounts to which they are entitled. Districts must engage in timely and meaningful consultation with each private school in their attendance areas prior to making any decisions that impact the participation of private school students and teachers in the federal education programs available to them. Important to note, the residency of the private school student is not a factor in determining the number of children "enrolled" in the participating elementary and secondary private schools. This consultation process should be ongoing throughout the year. Each district is responsible for determining, on the basis of the consultation process, the kinds of professional development opportunities that private school teachers will have available. This district decision must reflect how private school teachers, consistent with the availability of Title II,

Part A funds, can best secure the professional development they need to address their own identified teaching needs to improve student academic achievement.