Fiscal Year 2021 Title III Enhancements in the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan and Nonpublic Data System

February 2020

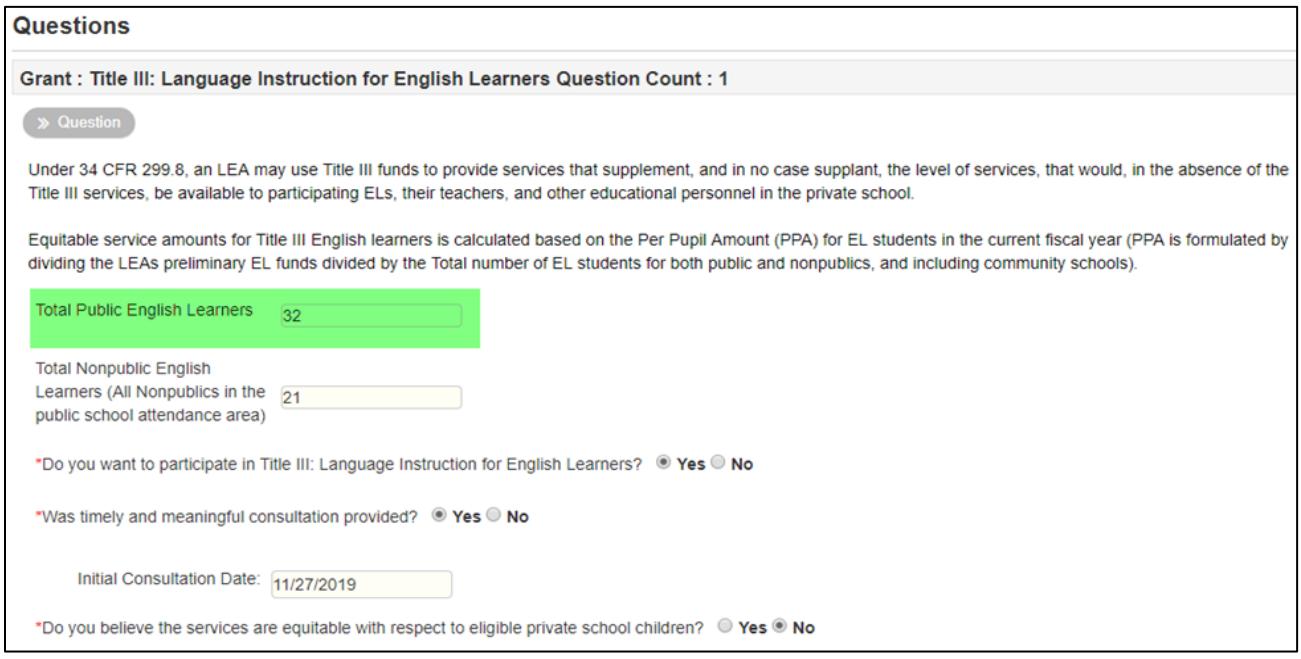
NONPUBLIC DATA SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

Beginning in the Fiscal Year 2021 reporting year, the Office of Federal Programs will manage Title III allocations. As in the past, nonpublic principals will mark YES for "Intent to Participate in Title III" on the Program Selection tab of the Nonpublic Data System (NPDS). Children who have been identified as English learners by the October count week should be reported to their resident districts on the NPDS Excel file.

Special Note: Public school districts are responsible for ensuring children in nonpublic schools have been identified appropriately as English learners. A school district cannot require the nonpublic school to administer the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA) as a condition for a child receiving equitable services under Title III. Nonpublic school district officials are responsible for beginning the consultation process for a child promptly, on an annual basis, and to verify counts of English learners before marking the Participation Form public approved. These counts affect the state per-pupil funding amount for English learners.

See the enhanced Title III Participation Form below. Notice it displays all English learner counts for both public and participating nonpublic schools as part of the Title III allocation formula.

TITLE III PARTICIPATION FORM SCREENSHOT



Questions

Grant : Title III: Language Instruction for English Learners Question Count : 1

» Question

Under 34 CFR 299.8, an LEA may use Title III funds to provide services that supplement, and in no case supplant, the level of services, that would, in the absence of the Title III services, be available to participating ELs, their teachers, and other educational personnel in the private school.

Equitable service amounts for Title III English learners is calculated based on the Per Pupil Amount (PPA) for EL students in the current fiscal year (PPA is formulated by dividing the LEAs preliminary EL funds divided by the Total number of EL students for both public and nonpublics, and including community schools).

Total Public English Learners 32

Total Nonpublic English Learners (All Nonpublics in the public school attendance area) 21

*Do you want to participate in Title III: Language Instruction for English Learners? Yes No

*Was timely and meaningful consultation provided? Yes No

Initial Consultation Date: 11/27/2019

*Do you believe the services are equitable with respect to eligible private school children? Yes No

The Ohio Department of Education will enhance the FY21 Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) Nonpublic School Service page to calculate automatically and display the Title III nonpublic equitable service amounts for each participating nonpublic school. For more information on how to report data in the NPDS, see the NPDS Instructions.

Consultation and Services

A school district that receives a Title III subgrant must provide supplemental services to English learners to help ensure these students attain English language proficiency and succeed in academic subject areas. Under the federal Title IX Uniform Provisions, a school district that receives Title III funds must provide Title III services to eligible private school students, their teachers and other educational personnel according to the number of eligible students enrolled in private elementary and secondary schools in the public school district's geographic area. These services and other benefits must be equitable to those provided to public school students, their teachers and other educational personnel taking part in the program; and the public school district must provide them without delay.

To ensure equitable participation, a school district must:

- Consult promptly and in a meaningful way with private school officials to assess, address and evaluate the needs of private school English learners, their teachers and other educational personnel;
- Spend funds per-pupil equal to the funds it expends for participating public school students, considering the number and educational needs of those students;
- Offer private school students, their teachers and other educational personnel opportunities to take part in activities equivalent to the opportunities it offers to public school students, their teachers and other educational personnel; and
- Offer secular, neutral and non-ideological services.

Example Services

Examples of the Title III services a school district may provide to private school English learners, their teachers and other educational personnel include:

- Tutoring for English learners before, during or after school hours;
- Professional development for private school teachers of English learners;
- Summer school programs to provide English language instruction for English learners;
- Administering an English learner assessment to identify students and/or evaluate the effectiveness of services, including test booklets, teacher training and stipends to teachers to administer tests; and
- Providing supplemental instructional materials and supplies. These must be supplemental to what the private school would be required to provide in the absence of the Title III services. These materials and supplies also must be clearly labeled and identified as the public school district's property. They also must be secular, neutral and non-ideological. The school district is required to maintain oversight of all materials and supplies purchased with Title III funds.

Districts cannot use Title III funds to meet a school's civil rights obligation to English learners. For more information, review the U.S. Department of Education's fact sheet on Ensuring English Learner Students Can Participate Meaningfully and Equally in Educational Programs.

For questions about Title III nonpublic compliance, school districts must provide:

- Evidence of consultation;
- Evidence of the nonpublic school's process to identify English learners;
- Compliance with the supplement, not supplant, provision; and
- Fiscal records aligned with allowable activities.

Resources and Contact Information

View the U.S. Department of Education's non-regulatory guidance on Title III Equitable Services to Private Schools.

If you have questions about Title III, contact Rasha Hetata Title III coordinator, at rasha.hetata@education.ohio.gov or (614) 752-1469. For answers to questions about nonpublic equitable services, contact Chantelle Carter, nonpublic ombudsman, at chantelle.carter@education.ohio.gov or (614) 466-5203.