## **Title Funds Buyers Guide**

## Title I

The purpose of Title I is to provide financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. Title I is also responsible for ensuring state and district accountability for EL student language proficiency and academic achievement. See more information on laws and guidance here.

# Here are the specific ways Ellevation supports Title I activities:

Meeting the educational needs of specific groups of students, including limited English proficient students; Closing the achievement gap between low and high performing children; Sec. 1001(2)(3)

- Ellevation helps districts and schools meet the specific needs of English Learners and close the achievement gap between ELs and their English-speaking peers in many ways:
  - Ellevation Platform provides all educators in the district access to EL student data, including multiple sets of
    assessment and instructional data needed to make important learning decisions. Teachers are able to set and monitor
    goals for their EL students and can easily identify where students are excelling and where students need additional
    support.
  - Ellevation Strategies provides educators of all grade-levels and subject areas activities and strategies that support
    differentiated instruction and engagement of all students. The activities and strategies use sound pedagogical
    practices targeted at supporting language development while enabling access to content. Ellevation Strategies is tied
    to all student data with the Ellevation Platform and guides educators to select activities and strategies that will address
    the specific needs of the students in their classroom.
  - Ellevation Math helps close the achievement gap between ELs and their English-speaking peers by supporting their academic language development. This blended-learning, student-facing program front loads vocabulary instruction and prepares students to access rigorous, grade-level content and meaningfully participate in the classroom.

Distributing and targeting resources sufficiently to make a difference to local educational agencies and schools where needs are greatest; Providing greater decision making authority and flexibility to schools and teachers in exchange for greater responsibility for student performance; Sec.1001(5)(7)

• Ellevation Platform provides greater decision making authority and flexibility to schools and teachers, allowing them more time to focus on student performance. Ellevation compiles all student data in one place and enables district administrators to view, analyze, and track important EL program metrics such as compliance activity completion (annual parent letters, student progress monitoring, headcount, etc). Administrators can create and save various data views and dashboards to have easy access to the data needed to make informed decisions about resources, instruction, and more. This platform enables administrators to use the data to distribute and target resources where the needs are greatest in order to make the biggest impact.

Promoting school-wide reform and ensuring the access of children to effective, scientifically based instructional strategies and challenging academic content; Significantly elevating the quality of instruction by providing staff in participating schools with substantial opportunities for professional development; Sec.1001 (9)(10)

- Ellevation promotes school-wide reform and ensures the access of children to effective, scientifically based instructional strategies and challenging academic content through its instructional tools. These tools also support educators and significantly elevates the quality of instruction in schools through ongoing professional development within the program.
  - Ellevation Strategies provides educators of all grade-levels and subject areas activities and strategies to use in the
    classroom with any content or curriculum that support differentiated instruction and engagement of all students. The
    activities and strategies use sound pedagogical practices targeted at supporting language development while enabling
    access to the content being taught. Additionally, educators can access professional development tools to support
    their growing understanding of English learning best practices that they can implement in their classrooms right away.
  - Ellevation Math supports student development of academic language required to successfully engage in the
    classroom. This blended-learning, student-facing program front loads vocabulary instruction through mini lessons and
    real world problem solving examples. By going through these mini lessons in advance, students come to the
    classroom ready to access rigorous, grade-level content and meaningfully participate in classroom discussions.

Coordinating services under all parts of this title with each other, with other educational services, and, to the extent feasible, with other agencies providing services to youth, children, and families; Sec.1001(11)

• Ellevation Platform, Strategies, and Math are available to all administrators and educators throughout the district to ensure that everyone in the district has access to important student information, strategies, and instruction for students. This widespread access supports the the coordination of services across the district and with other agencies providing services to English Learners.

#### **Important Considerations**

As you determine whether or not you will use Title I to purchase Ellevation, please keep the following considerations in mind:

- 1. Title I is frequently used for school-level purchases rather than district-level purchases. Ellevation Strategies and Ellevation Math can be purchased by schools, but a district commitment and purchase of Ellevation Platform is required.
- 2. In many states, once a district uses a funding source other than Title III is used to purchase Ellevation, future use of Title III requires the district to obtain a waiver. If a buyer believes they will want to use Title III funds in future years, it is wise to use those funds in the first year. Please look into your state-specific guidance on this.

# **Other Possible Funding Sources**

#### Texas Bilingual Education Allotment (BEA) - State Funds

Texas districts that apply for a Bilingual Education Exception and/or ESL Waiver must assure that they will use a minimum 10% of their total BEA funds for their comprehensive professional development plans. The 10% is applied to the 55% of BEA Direct Program Costs. These are the following that can apply towards the 55%:

- Instructional materials and equipment
- Staff Development
- Supplemental staff expenses
- Salary supplements for teachers
- Incremental costs associated with providing smaller class sizes
- Other supplies required for quality instruction

Examples of allowable use of BEA funds can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

Ellevation Strategies supports the use of BEA funds under Assessment/Instructional Materials and Equipment. Ellevation Strategies helps all stakeholders more effectively plan and deliver instruction that supports multilingual language development and academic content mastery. The 90+ language activities work with any content area and any grade level and ensure that students can access the content being taught. Ellevation would be allowable as classroom technology enhancements for teachers and students (i.e., computers, software licenses, etc.). Please see page 8 guidance here for more information.