



## **Interlocal Agreement for Private School Participation in Title I, Part A**

### **Program Description:**

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), allows private/non-public school students, teachers, and parents to participate in many federal education programs including Title I, Part A; Title I, Part C; Title II, Part A; Title III, Part A; Title IV, Parts A & B; and the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act of 2018 (Perkins V). Districts are required to allow eligible students, teachers, and parents access to these educational programs in a manner equitable to that of students, teachers, and parents who attend public schools. According to the ESSA, districts with participating private/non-public schools must offer these services to any non-public school within its district boundaries, and this extends to neighboring districts with participating non-public schools if students would have normally attended a school within the originating district.

Title I, Part A is the largest federal education grant. Title I, Part A funds are used to supplement existing school education programs by giving students extra assistance through materials, curriculum, and instruction along with added supports to teachers and parents. In many cases, non-public school students who attend a specific private school may cross district boundaries in order to attend their school of choice. This can lead to issues in setting aside equitable share dollar amounts, and it brings up questions of which district should serve which students. This document is to assist districts in establishing a plan to address these situations.

Title I, Part A Allocations are determined by one of two formulas. The first formula is for districts that serve a population of 20,000 persons or more. This process is based upon the Census poverty count. The second formula is for those districts that serve a population of fewer than 20,000 people. This process is based upon enrollment and free/reduced numbers, and it is called the alternative count. Districts and non-public schools must know which process is used to determine funding amounts and option selection.

All LEAs and participating private schools will work together to provide student address information to the fiscal agent/educational entities to determine eligibility for Title I, Part A services. Non-public students who would have attended a public school that was not eligible for Title I, Part A services are not eligible for Title I, Part A equitable share services. All LEAs and participating private schools will also work together to determine a free/reduced lunch count for assistance in setting aside equitable share funds. These processes can include an actual free/reduced count given by the non-public school, Community Eligibility Program (CEP), proportionality, Census poverty count, etc.



## AGREEMENT

This **AGREEMENT** is made and entered into by and between

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
School District name and LE# School District name and LE#

to provide Title I, Part A equitable share services to eligible students under one of the following options:

☐ **Option 1** \_\_\_\_\_ will provide Title I, Part A services to eligible  
District name  
students from \_\_\_\_\_.  
District name District name  
requires \_\_\_\_\_ to pay the equitable share amount for all  
District name  
eligible students as calculated in Egrants by \_\_\_\_\_.  
Date District name  
serves a population of 20,000 people or greater.

☐ **Option 2:** \_\_\_\_\_ will provide Title I, Part A services to eligible  
District name  
students from \_\_\_\_\_.  
District name District name  
will not require \_\_\_\_\_ to pay the equitable share amount for all  
District name  
eligible students. \_\_\_\_\_ serves a population of 20,000 people or  
District name  
greater.

☐ **Option 3:** \_\_\_\_\_ will not provide Title I, Part A services to  
District name  
eligible students from \_\_\_\_\_.  
District name District name  
will require \_\_\_\_\_ to serve its own students and fund the program  
District name  
out of its own equitable share amount. \_\_\_\_\_ serves a population  
District name  
of 20,000 people or greater.



☐ **Option 4:** \_\_\_\_\_ will provide Title I, Part A services to eligible students from \_\_\_\_\_.  
District name District name District name  
will not require \_\_\_\_\_ to pay the equitable share amount for all eligible students as \_\_\_\_\_ serves a population of fewer than 20,000 people, and the alternative count has been used.  
District name

The LEA providing services is required to keep all student records, financial reports, and interlocal agreements for review by the State Educational Agency (SEA). These reports must be kept for the present year and preceding three years.

Questions can be referred to the private school ombudsman at [joconnor2@mt.gov](mailto:joconnor2@mt.gov) or 406-444-3083.

\_\_\_\_\_  
District name

\_\_\_\_\_  
District name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**This agreement must be submitted no later than July 31 of each year.**

[Click here to submit](#) this agreement electronically, or a send copy of this agreement to:

Zach Hawkins, Private School Ombudsman  
Montana Office of Public Instruction  
PO Box 202501  
Helena, MT 59620-2501