Title III Emergency Immigrant Education Program

Purpose
In accordance with ESEA, Sec. 3241 the purpose of the Emergency Immigrant Education Program is to assist eligible local educational agencies that experience unexpectedly large increases in their student population due to immigration—(1) to provide high-quality instruction to immigrant children and youth; and (2) to help such children and youth—(A) with their transition into American society; and (B) meet the same challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards as all children are expected to meet.

Eligibility
A local educational agency (LEA) is eligible if they have had a significant increase in immigrant students. A significant increase is defined according to Title III, Sec. 3114(d)(2), where an LEA experiences an increase in immigrant student population of at least 20%. In Montana, LEAs is considered to have had a significant immigrant influx if it has experienced an increase of at least 5 immigrant students over the average immigrant population of the two preceding years and not enrolled as an immigrant student for more than 3 years. If more than one district is eligible a per-pupil amount is given to the LEAs.

Use of Funds

Sec. 3247 of ESEA - Funds awarded under this subpart shall be used to pay for enhanced instructional opportunities for immigrant children and youth, which may include —

1. family literacy, parent outreach, and training activities designed to assist parents to become active participants in the education of their children;
2. support of personnel, including teacher aides who have been specifically trained, or are being trained, to provide services to immigrant children and youth;
3. tutorials, mentoring, and academic or career counseling for immigrant children and youth;
4. identification and acquisition of curricular materials, educational software, and technologies;
5. the provision of basic instruction services that are directly attributable to the presence in the school district of immigrant children and youth, including payment of costs of providing additional classroom supplies, costs of transportation, or such other costs as are directly attributable to such additional basic instruction services.

Who are Immigrant Students?
Immigrant students are students between the ages of 3 and 21 who were not born in any U.S. State (or Puerto Rico) and have been enrolled in U.S schools for less than 3 academic years [ESEA, Part C, Section 3301(6)].

Note: Not all immigrant students are English Learners (ELs); therefore, it is important to ensure all immigrant students are eligible for activities and resources supported with the Emergency Immigrant funding.

Questions? Contact: Evelyn Paz, EL/ML & Title III Specialist  evelyn.paz@mt.gov

Resources: Newcomer Toolkit, English Learner Toolkit  (U.S. Department of Education)