

Welcome To Title I



WHAT is Title I?

Title I is the largest federal aid program in our schools. Title I provides additional resources and instruction to improve the educational performance of low achieving children in high poverty schools. Its goal is to help those children meet challenging state academic content and performance standards.

What is a targeted assistance school?

A “regular” or targeted assistance Title I school is one in which services are provided to a select group of students targeted as failing or most at risk of failing to meet the state’s academic standards. Students are selected using multiple criteria and services can be delivered through one-on-one tutoring, small group instruction, after school programs, and/or pull-out settings.

What is a schoolwide program school?

A schoolwide program school has a poverty level greater than 40% and a goal of helping all students in the school. A comprehensive needs assessment and a year of planning is necessary to establish a schoolwide plan that will lead to improving the overall instructional program of a school. The “co-teaching” model may be used in a schoolwide program. Under this system, Title I and classroom teachers make mutual decisions about who will provide direct instruction to whom. Some children may receive more in-depth services, such as Reading Recovery or one-on-one tutoring.

How can I find out if my school is a targeted assistance or a schoolwide program? Just ask your principal, family liaison or call the Title I Office .

Schedule of Events

September: – Welcome to a new school year! We know that it will be educationally productive when all parties live up to their compact commitments. Home/ School Family Compacts are sent out.

October: Title I sends out an information packed calendar the beginning of each month. MCAS results will be mailed home to parents.

November: Don’t forget to make an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher about his/her report card.

December: Remember that books make excellent holiday gifts. See the list attached to the December Title I Calendar.

January: Kindergarten registration begins for children who will be four years old by March 31st.

February: Watch for the Title I Vacation Book List. Be sure your child does lots of reading during vacation!

March: Books for Bingo will be held this month. It is an annual family event! MCAS Testing begins.

April: April Vacation Book List coming. It will contain lots of great reading ideas!

May: Ice Cream Sundae Night
MCAS Testing wraps up.

June: Don’t forget to have your child sign up for the summer reading program at the Cambridge Public Library!

There will be several other Title I events offered around the city. Watch for the flyers that will come home with your child.



Title I Program

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“Reading Our Way to the Top”

Cambridge Public Schools

Websites:

<http://www.cpsd.us>
http://www.cpsd.us/cpsdir/title1_facts.cfm

“No Child Left Behind Act”

What is an accountable education system”?

The "No Child Left Behind" Act of 2001 requires that all states will create learning standards for all grades and that annual assessments will be made of student progress towards those standards. In Massachusetts, the learning standards have been set by the Department of Education Curriculum Frameworks. The assessment of student progress towards these standards is done through the administration of the MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System). In Cambridge, the Cambridge Public Schools Curriculum Guides are aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. In addition to MCAS, the Cambridge Public Schools uses periodic tests, running records and benchmark books to assess student progress toward standards.

Under NCLB, parents have the power and right to:

- ❖ Know your child’s teachers’ and paraprofessionals’ qualifications to ensure that your child is being taught by those who are certified and highly qualified in their subject matter.
- ❖ Know the status of your child’s school, whether it is achieving adequate yearly progress (AYP), is in need of improvement, or is in corrective action/restructuring.
- ❖ Receive timely information on Title I, school performance reports, student assessment results, and other relevant information in a parent’s native language.
- ❖ Help create and/or review the school’s Title I plan and program evaluation.
- ❖ Get more involved! Title I monies earmarked for parent involvement go directly to the schools. Parents have the right to help determine how that money is used. Schools must build parental capacity!

For more information on the internet, go to:

www.nochildleftbehind.gov



Family Involvement

Parents have certain responsibilities under the “No Child Left Behind Act”, and play an important role in helping raise student achievement.

What is a home-school compact?

Schools that receive Title I funds must work with parents to create a “home-school compact,” specific to their child’s academic needs. Compacts outline how the school, family, and child will share responsibilities for raising achievement. Teachers benefit when families support education at home. Families benefit by having teachers officially recognize the importance of their roles in educating their students. Students benefit when families and schools establish a partnership dedicated to helping them be successful students. Parental responsibilities could range from helping with homework, attending parent-teacher conferences, to making decisions relevant to their child’s education.



Ways that you may see Title I helping in your child’s school:

Reading Specialists
Reading Recovery Teachers
Computers/Alpha Smart
Lesley University Literacy Collaborative
After School Programs
Parenting tips
Professional Development
Conferences/Fees for Title I staff and parents
Core Knowledge materials
Parent Workshops
Parent/Child school-wide and city wide activities (i.e.: Literacy Nights, Books for Bingo, School Breakfasts, Ice Cream Night)
Staff salaries
Scholarships & Awards
Free Book Distribution
Resource Room materials (Math, Literacy, Parent Rooms)
Curriculum planning
Monthly calendars
School Improvement planning funding
City wide community/agency collaboration

