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FY2016 State Grants Under Title I-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

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Summary

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) was comprehensively reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA; P.L. 114-95) on December 10, 2015. The Title I-A program is the largest grant program authorized under the ESEA and was funded at $14.9 billion for FY2016. It is designed to provide supplementary educational and related services to low-achieving and other students attending elementary and secondary schools with relatively high concentrations of students from low-income families.

Under current law, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) determines Title I-A grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) based on four separate funding formulas: Basic Grants, Concentration Grants, Targeted Grants, and Education Finance Incentive Grants (EFIG). The four Title I-A formulas have somewhat distinct allocation patterns, providing varying shares of allocated funds to different types of states. Thus, for some states, certain formulas are more favorable than others.

This report provides final FY2016 state grant amounts under each of the four formulas used to determine Title I-A grants. Overall, California received the largest FY2016 Title I-A grant amount ($1.8 billion or 11.98% of total Title I-A grants). Wyoming received the smallest FY2016 Title I-A grant amount ($34.8 million or 0.24% of total Title I-A grants).

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Introduction

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is the primary source of federal aid to elementary and secondary education. Title I-A is the largest program in the ESEA, funded at $14.9 billion for FY2016. Title I-A is designed to provide supplementary educational and related services to low-achieving and other students attending elementary and secondary schools with relatively high concentrations of students from low-income families. The U.S. Department of Education (ED) determines Title I-A grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) based on four separate funding formulas: Basic Grants, Concentration Grants, Targeted Grants, and Education Finance Incentive Grants (EFIG).

The ESEA was comprehensively reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA; P.L. 114-95) on December 10, 2015.[1] The ESSA made few changes to the Title I-A formulas. These changes took effect in FY2017.[2]

This report provides final FY2016 state grant amounts under each of the four formulas used to determine Title I-A grants.[3] For a general overview of the Title I-A formulas, see CRS Report R44164, *ESEA Title I-A Formulas: In Brief*, by Rebecca R. Skinner. For a more detailed discussion of the Title I-A formulas, see CRS Report R44461, *Allocation of Funds Under Title I-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act*, by Rebecca R. Skinner and Leah Rosenstiel.

Methodology

Under Title I-A, funds are allocated to LEAs via state educational agencies (SEAs) using the four Title I-A formulas. Annual appropriations bills specify portions of each year's Title I-A appropriation to be allocated to LEAs and states under each of the formulas. In FY2016, about 43% of Title I-A appropriations were allocated through the Basic Grants formula, 9% through the Concentration Grants formula, and 24% each through the Targeted Grants and EFIG formulas. Once funds reach LEAs, the amounts allocated under the four formulas are combined and used jointly.

For each formula, a maximum grant is calculated by multiplying a "formula child count," consisting primarily of estimated numbers of school-age children in poor families, by an "expenditure factor" based on state average per pupil expenditures for public elementary and secondary education. In some formulas, additional factors are multiplied by the formula child count and expenditure factor. These maximum grants are then reduced to equal the level of available appropriations for each formula, taking into account a variety of state and LEA minimum grant provisions. In general, LEAs must have a minimum number of formula children and/or a minimum formula child rate to be eligible to receive a grant under a specific Title I-A formula. Some LEAs may qualify for a grant under only one formula, while other LEAs may be eligible to receive grants under multiple formulas.

[1] For more information on the ESSA, see CRS Report R44297, *Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act: Highlights of the Every Student Succeeds Act*, by Rebecca R. Skinner and Jeffrey J. Kuenzi.

[2] While the ESSA included provisions for changes to the Title I-A formula grant allocation process to take effect on July 1, 2016, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-113) changed the effective date of these provisions to July 1, 2017.

[3] This report is one in a series of annual reports on Title I-A state grants. For more information about FY2015 Title I-A grants to states, see CRS Report R44097, *FY2015 State Grants Under Title I-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, by Rebecca R. Skinner.

Under three of the formulas—Basic, Concentration, and Targeted Grants—funds are initially calculated at the LEA level. State grants are the total of allocations for all LEAs in the state, adjusted for state minimum grant provisions. Under EFIG, grants are first calculated for each state overall and then are subsequently suballocated to LEAs within the state using a different formula.

Final FY2016 grants included in this report were calculated by ED. The percentage share of funds allocated under each of the Title I-A formulas was calculated by CRS for each state by dividing the total grant received by the total amount allocated under each respective formula.

FY2016 Title I-A Grants

Table 1 provides each state's grant amount and percentage share of funds allocated under each of the Title I-A formulas for FY2016.[4] Total Title I-A grants, calculated by summing the state level grant for each of the four formulas, are also shown in **Table 1.**

Overall, California received the largest total Title I-A grant amount ($1.8 billion) and, as a result, the largest percentage share (11.98%) of Title I-A grants. Wyoming received the smallest total Title I-A grant amount ($34.8 million) and, as a result, the smallest percentage share (0.24%) of Title I-A grants.

In general, grant amounts for states vary among formulas due to the different allocation amounts for the formulas. For example, the Basic Grant formula receives a greater share of overall Title I-A appropriations than the Concentration Grant formula, so states generally receive higher estimated grant amounts under the Basic Grant formula than under the Concentration Grant formula.

Among states, Title I-A grant amounts and the percentage shares of funds vary due to the different characteristics of each state. For example, Texas has a much larger population of children included in the formula calculations than North Carolina and, therefore, received a higher estimated grant amount and larger share of Title I-A funds.

Within a state, the percentage share of funds allocated may vary by formula as certain formulas are more favorable to certain types of states (e.g., EFIG is generally more favorable to states with comparatively equal levels of spending per pupil among their LEAs). If a state's share of a given Title I-A formula exceeds its share of overall Title I-A funds, this is generally an indication that this particular formula is more favorable to the state than formulas for which the state's share of funds is below its overall share of Title I-A funds. For example, Florida and Nevada received a substantially higher percentage share of Targeted Grants than of overall Title I-A funds, indicating that the Targeted Grants formula is more favorable to them than other Title I-A formulas may be. At the same time, both states received a smaller percentage share of Basic Grants than of overall Title I-A funds, indicating that the Basic Grants formula is less favorable to them than other Title I-A formulas may be.[5]

[4] The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) and the Outlying Areas receive 1% of overall Title I-A appropriations less a reservation of funds for the U.S. Census Bureau. The allocation of the 1% set-aside among the BIE and the Outlying Areas is determined at the discretion of the Secretary of Education. In FY2016, the BIE received $102.7 million, American Samoa received $12.1 million, Guam received $17.1 million, the Northern Mariana Islands received $7.3 million, and the Virgin Islands received $9.8 million.

[5] Both Florida and Nevada received their largest estimated grants under the Basic Grants formula, but this is due to the larger appropriation provided for Basic Grants. An examination of the percentage share each state receives under each of the four formulas provides an indication of which formulas are most beneficial to a particular state. In general, a

In states that received a minimum grant under all four formulas (Alaska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming), the shares under the Targeted Grants and EFIG formulas are greater than under the Basic Grants or Concentration Grants formulas, due to higher state minimums under these formulas. If a state received the minimum grant under a given Title I-A formula, the grant amount is denoted with an asterisk (*) in **Table 1.**

state would receive a larger overall Title I-A grant if a greater percentage of the Title I-A appropriation was provided to the formula(s) under which the state benefits the most.

Table 1. Final FY2016 Title I-A State Grants and Percentage Share of Funds

Dollars in thousands

State	Basic Grants		Concentration Grants		Targeted Grants		EFIG		Total Title I-A Grants	
	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation
Total, United States	$6,390,863	100.00%	$1,348,678	100.00%	$3,508,610	100.00%	$3,508,610	100.00%	$14,756,760	100.00%
Alabama	$102,223	1.60%	$23,189	1.72%	$54,530	1.55%	$57,903	1.65%	$237,845	1.61%
Alaska	$17,208*	0.27%	$3,036*	0.23%	$10,743*	0.31%	$10,717*	0.31%	$41,704	0.28%
Arizona	$144,343	2.26%	$31,459	2.33%	$81,684	2.33%	$76,362	2.18%	$333,848	2.26%
Arkansas	$68,638	1.07%	$15,592	1.16%	$33,594	0.96%	$38,849	1.11%	$156,673	1.06%
California	$764,472	11.96%	$166,066	12.31%	$445,782	12.71%	$391,797	11.17%	$1,768,117	11.98%
Colorado	$68,124	1.07%	$11,856	0.88%	$33,791	0.96%	$37,044	1.06%	$150,815	1.02%
Connecticut	$57,847	0.91%	$8,952	0.66%	$23,885	0.68%	$32,172	0.92%	$122,857	0.83%
Delaware	$18,584	0.29%	$4,261	0.32%	$12,235*	0.35%	$12,193*	0.35%	$47,272	0.32%
District of Columbia	$17,744*	0.28%	$3,796	0.28%	$11,375*	0.32%	$11,339*	0.32%	$44,254	0.30%
Florida	$323,945	5.07%	$76,180	5.65%	$222,043	6.33%	$191,007	5.44%	$813,175	5.51%
Georgia	$220,482	3.45%	$50,716	3.76%	$127,798	3.64%	$124,931	3.56%	$523,928	3.55%
Hawaii	$21,512	0.34%	$5,060	0.38%	$12,943	0.37%	$13,935	0.40%	$53,450	0.36%
Idaho	$26,709	0.42%	$5,787	0.43%	$12,280*	0.35%	$13,434	0.38%	$58,210	0.39%
Illinois	$296,851	4.64%	$58,887	4.37%	$162,494	4.63%	$148,944	4.25%	$667,177	4.52%
Indiana	$116,699	1.83%	$24,215	1.80%	$53,020	1.51%	$64,839	1.85%	$258,773	1.75%
Iowa	$45,093	0.71%	$7,632	0.57%	$17,399	0.50%	$25,115	0.72%	$95,239	0.65%
Kansas	$50,997	0.80%	$9,498	0.70%	$22,543	0.64%	$27,420	0.78%	$110,459	0.75%
Kentucky	$92,714	1.45%	$21,164	1.57%	$48,002	1.37%	$53,044	1.51%	$214,924	1.46%

State	Basic Grants		Concentration Grants		Targeted Grants		EFIG		Total Title I-A Grants	
	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation
Louisiana	$122,866	1.92%	$29,330	2.17%	$68,429	1.95%	$69,393	1.98%	$290,018	1.97%
Maine	$23,381	0.37%	$4,634	0.34%	$12,280*	0.35%	$12,280*	0.35%	$52,575	0.36%
Maryland	$92,505	1.45%	$18,174	1.35%	$54,988	1.57%	$53,965	1.54%	$219,633	1.49%
Massachusetts	$109,259	1.71%	$18,843	1.40%	$48,260	1.38%	$57,311	1.63%	$233,674	1.58%
Michigan	$216,304	3.38%	$44,924	3.33%	$112,836	3.22%	$117,674	3.35%	$491,739	3.33%
Minnesota	$78,447	1.23%	$11,206	0.83%	$33,650	0.96%	$41,254	1.18%	$164,558	1.12%
Mississippi	$80,065	1.25%	$18,745	1.39%	$43,423	1.24%	$43,352	1.24%	$185,585	1.26%
Missouri	$109,453	1.71%	$23,048	1.71%	$50,231	1.43%	$57,642	1.64%	$240,375	1.63%
Montana	$17,835	0.28%	$3,822	0.28%	$12,280*	0.35%	$12,280*	0.35%	$46,217	0.31%
Nebraska	$32,124	0.50%	$6,146	0.46%	$14,684	0.42%	$17,668	0.50%	$70,623	0.48%
Nevada	$47,257	0.74%	$10,953	0.81%	$35,042	1.00%	$26,582	0.76%	$119,835	0.81%
New Hampshire	$17,744*	0.28%	$2,886	0.21%	$11,209*	0.32%	$11,380*	0.32%	$43,219	0.29%
New Jersey	$159,792	2.50%	$26,721	1.98%	$70,579	2.01%	$86,495	2.47%	$343,587	2.33%
New Mexico	$47,735	0.75%	$11,128	0.83%	$27,089	0.77%	$27,457	0.78%	$113,409	0.77%
New York	$476,102	7.45%	$100,461	7.45%	$307,960	8.78%	$253,351	7.22%	$1,137,874	7.71%
North Carolina	$181,760	2.84%	$42,336	3.14%	$100,896	2.88%	$103,570	2.95%	$428,562	2.90%
North Dakota	$15,130*	0.24%	$2,247*	0.17%	$9,594*	0.27%	$9,610*	0.27%	$36,580	0.25%
Ohio	$255,892	4.00%	$51,971	3.85%	$125,593	3.58%	$141,726	4.04%	$575,181	3.90%
Oklahoma	$71,363	1.12%	$15,321	1.14%	$34,433	0.98%	$39,933	1.14%	$161,050	1.09%
Oregon	$65,926	1.03%	$14,208	1.05%	$29,865	0.85%	$36,716	1.05%	$146,714	0.99%
Pennsylvania	$259,547	4.06%	$49,277	3.65%	$131,199	3.74%	$135,842	3.87%	$575,866	3.90%

State	Basic Grants		Concentration Grants		Targeted Grants		EFIG		Total Title I-A Grants	
	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation	Grant Amount	Percentage Share of Total Allocation
Puerto Rico	$175,178	2.74%	$44,480	3.30%	$90,251	2.57%	$98,810	2.82%	$408,720	2.77%
Rhode Island	$21,810	0.34%	$4,099	0.30%	$12,280*	0.35%	$12,280*	0.35%	$50,469	0.34%
South Carolina	$102,215	1.60%	$23,856	1.77%	$54,744	1.56%	$58,880	1.68%	$239,695	1.62%
South Dakota	$17,744*	0.28%	$3,170*	0.24%	$11,868*	0.34%	$11,884*	0.34%	$44,665	0.30%
Tennessee	$127,393	1.99%	$29,270	2.17%	$71,771	2.05%	$73,316	2.09%	$301,750	2.04%
Texas	$580,153	9.08%	$128,980	9.56%	$341,074	9.72%	$328,275	9.36%	$1,378,482	9.34%
Utah	$39,358	0.62%	$6,816	0.51%	$19,737	0.56%	$21,929	0.62%	$87,840	0.60%
Vermont	$14,394*	0.23%	$2,547*	0.19%	$9,149*	0.26%	$9,242*	0.26%	$35,332	0.24%
Virginia	$121,617	1.90%	$22,746	1.69%	$58,294	1.66%	$60,323	1.72%	$262,980	1.78%
Washington	$105,853	1.66%	$20,650	1.53%	$46,564	1.33%	$57,410	1.64%	$230,477	1.56%
West Virginia	$39,741	0.62%	$9,038	0.67%	$17,541	0.50%	$23,305	0.66%	$89,625	0.61%
Wisconsin	$96,330	1.51%	$17,311	1.28%	$45,482	1.30%	$57,253	1.63%	$216,376	1.47%
Wyoming	$14,400*	0.23%	$1,987*	0.15%	$9,192*	0.26%	$9,178*	0.26%	$34,756	0.24%

Source: Table prepared by CRS based on unpublished data provided by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), Budget Service. FY2016 Title I-A grant amounts were calculated by ED. Percentage shares of FY2016 allocation amounts were calculated by CRS.

Notes: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Percentages calculated based on unrounded numbers. Amounts shown in the table only reflect Title I-A funds provided to states. These amounts are determined after funds have been reserved from the total Title I-A appropriation for the Census Bureau, Bureau of Indian Education, and Outlying Areas. An asterisk (*) denotes minimum grants.

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