

## How Do Districts Receive Title III Immigrant Funds?

The overarching purpose of Title III as reauthorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is to ensure that limited-English-proficient (LEP) students (called English learners under California laws), including immigrant children and youths, attain English proficiency and meet the same challenging academic content and achievement standards that other students are expected to meet.

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) must use Title III funds to implement language instruction educational programs designed to help LEP students achieve standards. The state educational agency (SEA), LEAs, and schools are accountable for increasing the English proficiency and core academic content knowledge of LEP students.

The Department provides subgrants to LEAs for eligible immigrant students on the basis of a formula. For the fiscal year, qualifying LEAs will receive an allocation for each eligible immigrant student enrolled in the LEA. The California Department of Education is authorized to award subgrants to LEAs that experience a significant growth in the enrollment of eligible immigrant students (Title III, Section 3114 (d) (1)).

The Department examines immigrant enrollment data reported annually through the SNOR [now included in CALPADS reporting] to determine whether the LEA has experienced a significant increase in eligible immigrant student enrollment in the current year compared with the average of the two preceding fiscal years. If the percentage of growth is two percent or greater, the LEA is eligible to participate in the Title III immigrant education program.

LEAs will be funded for a rolling three-year period. For each year that the LEA is eligible (e.g., has an increase in enrollment of eligible immigrant students of five percent or more), the LEA will receive a grant for the subsequent three-year period. For example, if an LEA established eligibility with the 2006 submission of the SNOR, immigrant education funds were approved for 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10. Each year, the level of funding will be recalculated according to the number of eligible immigrant students reported by the LEA for the previous year. For instance, in 2007-08 the per pupil Title III allocation is \$95.00. An LEA with a 2006 count of 200 eligible immigrant students according to the report will be scheduled to receive a subgrant of \$19,000 in 2007-08.