

# Schoolwide Title I Programs

—How and why they work



Literature provided by:

Title I

"Making a Difference in Hamilton County"  
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<http://www.hcde.org/inside>

[hcde/divisions/federal-programs/title-1](http://www.hcde.org/divisions/federal-programs/title-1)

## What is Title I?\*

It's a federal program to help all students get a good education and meet academic standards.

### Title I can help the whole school.

A schoolwide Title I program allows eligible schools to use Title I money to pay for educational programs for the whole school. (In general, schools with 40% or more of children from low-income families are eligible. However, if there isn't enough funding for all eligible schools, priority goes to those identified as needing improvement that have the highest levels of children from low-income families.)

### Your child can benefit.

A schoolwide Title I program can offer services and programs that can help improve your child's education. A good education can give your child a better chance of success in life!



## Schoolwide Title I programs offer many benefits.

These include:

### Improved programs

Schools may offer more:

- classroom services, such as tutors
- variety, such as group activities and workshops
- teachers and other support staff for teachers and other staff.
- resources, such as computers

Title I money may be combined with other funds to pay for new programs.

### Equal treatment of all students

All students are held to the same challenging academic standards. And, since the whole school gets the services, students are less likely to feel singled out.



Parents and families are invited to help plan and take part in their school's program.

## More schools that are eligible are turning to schoolwide programs.

\*In this folder, "Title I" is short for "Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965."

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## What goes into a schoolwide program?

### It's based on several key elements.

These include:

- challenging academic standards—the state sets standards for what students in each grade should know in certain subjects
- a plan to help all students reach the standards—extra help, such as tutors, may be needed
- well-trained teachers and other staff
- parent and family involvement—community groups and others may also get involved.



### Progress can be measured.

The school may look at:

- student work
- assessment test scores, grades and attendance
- graduation and dropout rates.

## What do schoolwide programs offer?

It depends on the school's needs. A program might offer:

### Extra learning time

This may be provided through:

- before- or after-school programs
- a longer school day
- Saturday classes
- workshops or summer programs.

### Technology-enhanced learning

For example, teachers may use special software in the classroom to help students improve certain academic skills.

### Team teaching

Teachers may:

- pair up in the classroom for combined lessons
- cover material that builds on information taught in other classes.



### A schoolwide program may put extra effort into:

- keeping class sizes small
- improving reading or other skills
- helping students transition to the next level of schooling.

Dear Parents,

As a parent, you have many rights of which you should be aware. Please take the time to read this material. If you have questions, you may call the Title I office at (423) 498-7097. We will be happy to answer your questions.

We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of your child's education.

Sincerely,  
Preston Gonter,  
Federal Programs Director

## A schoolwide Title I program generally follows these steps:

### 1. A needs assessment

School staff, teachers and parents see what's needed for all the students to meet education standards.

### 2. Planning

This involves deciding how to best meet the needs shown in the assessment.

### 3. Professional development

For example, teachers may receive training for helping students with specific learning needs.

NOTE: As a parent, you have the right to request information about the qualifications of your child's teacher.

### 4. Getting resources in place

These may include teacher assistants or computers in classrooms.

### 5. Yearly reviews

School staff, teachers and parents see if there has been improvement in students' achievement. If not, they may seek changes to the program.

NOTE: Parents have the right to see yearly "report cards" showing how their child and the school are performing under the schoolwide Title I program.

## Successful schoolwide Title I programs

are a result of schools and parents working together.

### Schools can:

- offer adult programs—workshops or classes to help parents with academic or parenting skills
- reach out to parents—for example, through newsletters or parent-teacher conferences.

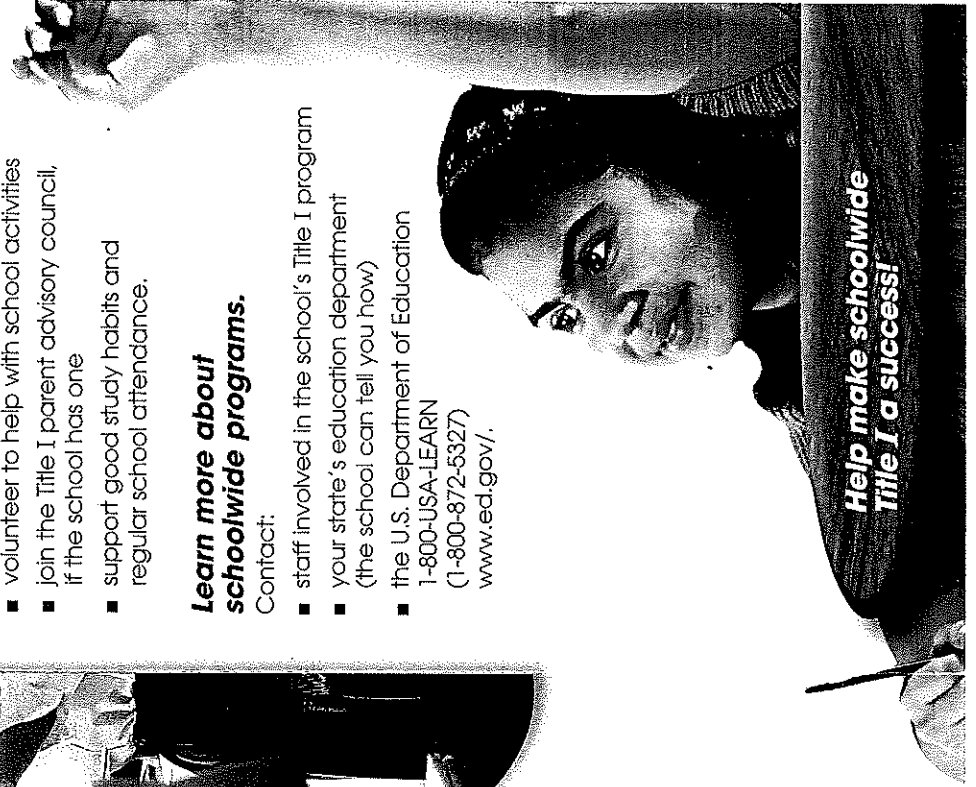
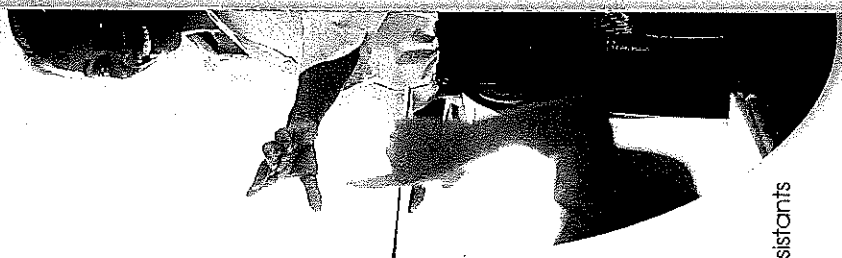
### Parents can:

- help plan and review the schoolwide program
- volunteer to help with school activities
- join the Title I parent advisory council, if the school has one
- support good study habits and regular school attendance.

### Learn more about schoolwide programs.

Contact:

- staff involved in the school's Title I program
- your state's education department (the school can tell you how)
- the U.S. Department of Education  
1-800-USA-LEARN  
(1-800-872-5327)  
[www.ed.gov/](http://www.ed.gov/).



Help make schoolwide Title I a success!