

# INDIANA'S APPLICATION FOR THE EDUCATIONAL FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM (ED-FLEX)

IDOE'S ED-FLEX APPLICATION WAS APPROVED BY USDOE ON MAY 6, 2020. THE FOLLOWING FLEXIBILITY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO LEAs BEGINNING WITH THE FY 21 (SCHOOL YEAR 2020-21) GRANT CYCLE.



LEAs may carry over up to 25% of their Title I, Part A funds to the following fiscal year. This will increase maximum the Title I, Part A carryover from 15%

- Allows LEAs to utilize funding more meaningfully by providing additional time to account for extenuating circumstances
- Most LEAs' Title I funding is tied up in staffing - with teacher shortages, staffing is sometimes difficult to fill quickly when staff resigns
- Instead of the LEA purchasing large amounts of supplies and equipment with the unused funds near the end of the project period, replacement staff can be hired instead
- Note: For 2019-20 only, due to the CARES Act, LEAs can carryover 100% of their unused funds. For 20-21, the ED-Flex increases the 15% limit to 25% when approved by IDOE



LEAs may utilize the more flexible state defined paraprofessional requirements for highly-qualified rather than the current federal requirements

- ESSA allows Indiana to set its own licensure and quality requirements for certified staff but maintains federal requirements for paraprofessionals
- See <https://www.doe.in.gov/licensing/paraprofessionals> for information on previous requirements and new options



Indiana Department of Corrections may utilize up to 65% of its Title I, Part D funds (Delinquent) on transition services (between IDOC and local school districts)

- The IDOC (state agency for delinquent) has local funds that cover the basic educational program for these students
- Title I, D funds are most effectively used in supporting the transition of students in the juvenile facilities back to their LEAs when they have fulfilled court requirements
- The previous 30% maximum limits the ability for the State agency (IDOC) to collaborate at a high-level with LEAs for re-entry of students



LEAs who receive more than \$30,000 in Title IV, A funds do not have to spend 20% on well-rounded education and social emotional learning

- LEAs should use a data-driven needs assessment to dictate how Title IV, A funds are used rather than a specific percentage
- LEAs may already be implementing a well-rounded education program with state/local funds and would like to dedicate all Title IV funding to social-emotional needs or technology integration needs
- Based upon feedback received, IDOE will maintain the 15% equipment and device limitation



LEAs may ask IDOE for a Tydings waiver (to extend the normal length of time for the project period for a respective grant e.g. 27 months to 36 months)

- This will provide more time in extenuating circumstances (e.g. lack of use by a previous LEA administration, and new team needs more time to use the funding at the highest level)
- IDOE will place safeguards upon the Tydings waiver requests, such as only approving waivers that are requested prior to the liquidation deadline of the respective grants