

# OFP Highlights

...is an update on the Office of Federal Programs' federal grants & RFPs, workshops, trainings, and opportunities relevant to MS school districts, parents, community and other stakeholders.

April 11, 2014

New Releases & Web Postings

## *FY 2015 CFPA*

The FY2015 Consolidated Federal Programs Application has been released and is located on the Office of Federal Programs' website at: [CFPA](#).

## *Tydings Waiver and Immigrant Student Count Survey*

**Thank you** to the following districts for completing the "Tydings Waiver and Immigrant Student Count Survey" that was released on March 26, 2014:

Aberdeen	Forrest County School	Marshall County	Prentiss County
Baldwyn	Greenville Public	Monroe County	Scott County
Calhoun County	Gulfport	Neshoba County	South Pike
Carroll County	Harrison County	New Albany	Stone County
Choctaw County	Hattiesburg Public	Pass Christian	Tate County
Clinton Public	Hinds County	Pearl Public	Union County
Coahoma AHS	Indianola	Leake County	Vicksburg Warren
Columbia	Jones County	Richton	Webster County
Columbus	Lafayette County	Petal	West Jasper
Corinth	Franklin County	Picayune	Western Line
East Jasper	Laurel	Pontotoc City	Yazoo County
Forest Municipal	Lawrence County	Pontotoc County	Greenwood Public
Forrest County AHS	Marion County	Poplarville	

Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Federal Programs, is verifying student counts for districts who have served immigrant students in school year 2012-2013. **All** remaining districts must complete the survey by the extended deadline — **Wednesday, April 16, 2014**

For more information, please contact: Tarro Funches @ 601-359-3499

Email: [tfunchess@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:tfunchess@mde.k12.ms.us)

## **MASA (Mississippi Association of School Administrators) Spring Conference April 13-15, 2014 at the Jackson Hilton**

The Office of Federal Programs (OFP) is scheduled to present two concurrent sessions on Monday, April 14, 2014, in the Penthouse. **Session I** begins at 10:15 a.m. with **Session II** beginning at 1:45 p.m. Each session will last approximately 90 minutes. The OFP will present information on the following topics:

- Updates from ED, including flexibility in schoolwide planning and Community Eligibility options;
- Formulas for federal funding and reallocations;
- An overview of ESEA flexibility and the single accountability model; and
- Planning, reporting, and other OFP activities.

Please join us during these information packed sessions.

### **Application and Amendment Submission**

All applications and amendments submitted to the Office of Federal Programs should be saved in an **Adobe PDF** format and uploaded to SharePoint. Using your assigned username and password, log into [SharePoint](#) and upload your application into the “respective folder.”

Mail all pages requiring original signatures to the Office of Federal Programs:

**Mississippi Department of Education | Office of Federal Programs | Attention: Marcus E. Cheeks, Bureau Director | 359 North West Street | P.O. Box 771 | Jackson, MS 39205-0771**

[Guidance Notifications](#)

In an effort to enhance consistency with the interpretation of federal and state regulations in relation to the Office of Federal Programs, we are adding a new section to the OFP webpage designed to house good guidance. The new “[Guidance Letters](#)” section will offer a repository

of correspondences designed to provide guidance and insight on a variety of topics of interest to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), school districts, federal program directors, and others in implementing No Child Left Behind. Please notice the two topics addressed this week: Funding Teacher Units and Serving Schools out of Rank Order.

#### *Serving Schools out of Rank Order*

An LEA must determine schools eligibility in accordance with Section 1113 of the ESEA (Elementary Secondary Education Act of 1965). In doing so, LEAs must annually rank, without regard to grade spans, eligible school attendance areas in which the concentration of children from low-income families exceeds 75 percent. Schools must be ranked and served from highest to lowest according to the percentage of children from low-income families. Once schools that have a percentage of poverty of 75 percent or more have been served, the LEA shall rank the remaining eligible schools from highest to lowest either, by grade span or based on poverty for the entire LEA. Remaining schools shall be served in rank order either within each grade-span grouping or within the local educational agency as a whole. See the Guidance letter section of the OFP webpage for more information.

#### *Funding Teacher Units*

An LEA must first ensure all state requirements have been met, as outlined in state statute and policy, such as the Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards. The required standards must be met before federal funds can be used in a supplemental manner. This action must be in accordance with MS Code §37-151-77.

The school district should review net membership by school, grade, and classroom using the Month 1 MSIS attendance (ADA) report in order to determine the teacher-student ratios meet the state standards before placing federally funded positions. The Office of Federal Programs will review this report when monitoring the district's federal programs. See the Guidance letter section of the OFP webpage for more information.

### Monitoring Information

Monitoring federal programs helps ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education. Compliance monitoring is intended to be a collaborative partnership between the State and LEAs to ensure compliance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The following Title programs have begun the monitoring process from now until July 31, 2014:

- Title I, Part D: Neglected & Delinquent
- Title III, Part A: English Language Learners
- Title X, Part C: Homeless Education

**For more information, please contact the following:**

Title I, Part D: Neglected & Delinquent—Jerry McClendon, [jmccleendon@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:jmccleendon@mde.k12.ms.us)  
Title III, Part A: English Language Learners—Tarro Funches, [tfunchess@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:tfunchess@mde.k12.ms.us)  
Title X, Part C: Homeless Education—Barbara Greene, [bgreene@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:bgreene@mde.k12.ms.us)

## News You Can Use & Friendly Reminders

### ***FY 2015 Migrant Education Request for Proposals***

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) is soliciting proposals for the purpose of creating a Mississippi Migrant Education Service Center. This center must provide academic enrichment opportunities for Migrant Children, to prepare them to meet core academic achievement standards in schools across the state.

Potential offerors may access the Request for Proposal at [www.mde.k12.ms.us](http://www.mde.k12.ms.us) under the Public Notice/Request for Proposals/Federal Programs Office. The deadline for receipt of proposals is on or before 3:30 p.m., Central Time (CT) Tuesday, May 20, 2014.

All questions must be submitted by April 17, 2014 and directed to Patrice Boone @ 601-359-3499.  
Email: [pboone@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:pboone@mde.k12.ms.us)

### ***FY 2015 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Request for Proposals***

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) is soliciting proposals for the purpose of McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth grant. The Request for Proposals may be accessed by potential offerors at [www.mde.k12.ms.us](http://www.mde.k12.ms.us) under the Public Notice section. The deadline for receipt of proposals is on or before 3:30 p.m., Central Time (CT) Monday, June 2, 2014.

All questions must be submitted by April 18, 2014 and directed to Barbara Greene @ 601-359-3499.

Email: [bgreene@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:bgreene@mde.k12.ms.us)

### ***New Authority for Uses of Title I, Part A for Homeless Students***

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) has been asked whether Title I funds may be used to meet two requirements of McKinney-Vento: (1) to provide a local homeless liaison; and (2) to pay the cost to transport homeless children and youth to and from their school of origin. New authority in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 expands the allowable use of Title I funds to support these activities.

The appropriations language applies to FY2015 (SY2014-2015) Title I funds and, under the authority in section 425(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), to FYs 2013 and 2014 Title I carryover funds as well. Accordingly, an LEA may spend funds from its FY 2015 Title I allocation and unobligated Title I carryover funds to pay for the homeless liaison or to transport homeless children and youth to their school of origin. For your reference, the

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 guidance is available at:  
<http://center.serve.org/nche/legis/2014-omnibus.php>  
 For more information, please contact Barbara Greene @ 601-359-3499  
 Email: [bgreene@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:bgreene@mde.k12.ms.us)

***WIDA Notifications for ELLs  
 Test Materials Ordering***

In February 2014, the MDE provided MetriTech with the Pre-ID data file and test material orders for each District. The Pre-ID data file will be generated from the EL data entered by the school districts into EL-specific Federal Program screens in the MSIS. MetriTech will produce Pre-ID labels and packing lists for each district based on the EL information in the MDE-provided data file. The ELLs testing window is April 1<sup>st</sup> thru April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Additional materials may be ordered April 1<sup>st</sup> thru April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 by contacting MetriTech directly at Customer Service 800-747-4868 or via web at: [www.metritech.com](http://www.metritech.com). Please consult your District Test Coordinator (DTC) for additional information.

***Testing Schedule for the 2013-2014 Academic Year***

Task	Start Date	End Date
Districts Receive Test Materials & Paperwork	March 25, 2014	
<b>Test Window</b>	<b>April 1, 2014</b>	<b>April 30, 2014</b>
<b>Additional Materials Ordering Window</b>	<b>April 1, 2014</b>	<b>April 16, 2014</b>
Districts Pack & Ship Completed Materials	April 30, 2014	May 2, 2014
All Materials Received at MetriTech	---	No Later Than May 6, 2014
Reports Shipped to Districts (Attention: DTC)	July 3, 2014	July 8, 2014

For more information, please contact: Tarro Funches @ 601-359-3499  
 Email: [tfunches@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:tfunches@mde.k12.ms.us)

***FY13 CFPA Reallocations***

FY 2013, Title I, Part A reallocation notifications were released on March 17, 2014. One hundred ten (110) LEAs received a portion of the Title I, Part A reallocated funds and are required to submit an amendment to their FY13 (SY2012-2013) CFPA. **The deadline for submitting the amendments is Friday, April 11, 2014.** The funding period of availability for these funds ends September 30, 2014.

For more information, please contact: **Melanie Diggs @ 601-359-9700**

Email: [mdiggs@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:mdiggs@mde.k12.ms.us)

### ***Community Eligibility Provision***

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is being phased in over several years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and will be available in all States starting in the 2014-2015 school year. CEP permits eligible schools to provide meal service to all students at no charge, regardless of economic status, while reducing burden at the household and local levels by eliminating the need to obtain eligibility data from families through a separate collection.

In addition to promoting nutrition for at-risk students, these changes to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) are important to the implementation of Title I, Part A because SEAs and LEAs often use NSLP data to carry out certain Title I requirements. The Office of Child Nutrition and Office of Federal Programs are working collaboratively to support LEAs and schools desiring to exercise this CEP options. Specific guidance and support material may be located at the link below. <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/healthy-schools/nutrition-services/nutrition-services---resources>

For more information, please contact: **Stephanie Robinson, Office of Child Nutrition @ 601-359-1737**

Email: [SNRobinson@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:SNRobinson@mde.k12.ms.us) or

**Delicia Bennett, Office of Federal Programs @ 601-359-3499**

Email: [dbennett@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:dbennett@mde.k12.ms.us)

### ***Community Eligibility Provision Webinar***

The Offices of Child Nutrition and Federal Programs will host a webinar on Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. regarding the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). The webinar will provide an overview of the CEP, including eligibility requirements, deadlines, financial implications, and guidance from USDA and USDE. Please follow this link for information on the CEP: <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/cep>

Webinar Registration Information: Reserve your Webinar seat now at:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/270513738>

For more information, please contact: **Stephanie Robinson, Office of Child Nutrition @ 601-359-1737**

Email: [SNRobinson@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:SNRobinson@mde.k12.ms.us) or

**Delicia Bennett, Office of Federal Programs @ 601-359-3499**

Email: [dbennett@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:dbennett@mde.k12.ms.us)

### ***Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Webinar***

The testing window for the K Readiness Assessment will open on April 23, 2014. Participation for the K Readiness Assessment is mandatory for Collaboratives and Optional for Title I Pre-K programs.

For more information, please contact: Robin Lemonis, Office of Curriculum & Instruction @ 359-2586  
Email: [rlemonis@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:rlemonis@mde.k12.ms.us)

### *Welcome to MDE, Ms. Brittany Herrington*

MDE has engaged a prekindergarten specialist: Brittany Herrington. Ms. Herrington's focus is increasing quality of Title I prekindergarten programs. She will be reaching out to districts and schools to gather data, as well as visiting in districts and schools to provide on-site assistance. If contacted by Ms. Herrington, please know that she is acting on behalf of the MDE and the Office of Federal Programs.

### *Differentiated Support for Focus and Approaching Target Schools*

Tuesday, April 22, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., the Office of Federal Programs will host the next installment in a series of webinars on Action Plans for Focus and Approaching Target Schools. Please register for the webinar using the following link:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/877221226> and share the login information with your staff as appropriate.

### **Reminder: FY 2015 CFPA Training**

The FY 2015 CFPA (Consolidated Federal Programs Application) training is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> at the Vicksburg Convention Center in Vicksburg, MS. Please reserve your seat by clicking here: [North Mississippi Education Consortium](#) (click on **Workshops/MDE Sponsored/Federal Programs**). We are requesting a **two-person team**, which may include the Federal Programs Director, Federal Programs Bookkeeper or district Business Manager. Key sessions will be recorded and posted to OFP website for individuals with scheduling conflicts. In an effort to better accommodate planning and approval of the **FY2015 CFPA, the due date is officially June 30, 2014. However, we invite the submission of applications, as soon as possible, to ensure a timely response.** The FY2015 Consolidated Federal Programs Application has been released and is located on the Office of Federal Programs' website at: [CFPA](#)

[Save the Date: Tuesday, April 29th- Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup>](#)

### **Reminder: Section II-D Private/Non-public School Affirmation Form**

Section 1120(b) of the *No Child Left Behind Act* and Section 200.63 of the Title I regulations require that timely and meaningful consultation occur between the local education agency (LEA) and private school officials prior to any decisions that affect the opportunities of eligible private school children, teachers, and other educational personnel to participate in programs under this Act. In addition, LEAs shall continue consultation throughout the implementation and assessment of

activities under this section. This form should be completed by the public school officials and presented to private/non-public school officials for documenting *Affirmation of Consultation*. The private school administrator is required to sign this form. The Needs Assessment/Program Planning and Program Timelines are additional recommended documents for LEAs with participating private/non-public schools. These documents can be located at <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/federal-programs/federal-programs---title-i-basic/private-schools>. Please note: ***All*** LEAs are required to obtain counts for private/non-public school students from low-income families as of ***April 30 annually***.

Have a wonderful weekend,

-MEC

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