

June 26, 2017

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: LEAs with Schools

To the Administrator Addressed

June 26, 2017

Page 2

Required and reading/math safeguard performance in the seven federal student groups at the federal safeguard target of 87%.

Due in part to school year 2017–2018 being a transition year, there will not be an exit process for schools identified as priority or focus for school year 2017–2018. Information on exiting priority or focus status will be released in Fall of 2018 when new priority and focus schools are identified under ESSA for school year 2018-2019.

Intervention Requirements

Priority and focus schools are required to designate a District Coordinator of School Improvement (DCSI) and to begin and/or continue engaging in the Texas Accountability Intervention System (TAIS) continuous improvement framework that is aligned around the ESEA turnaround principles and the Critical Success Factors (CSFs). The district is responsible for assisting identified schools in all aspects of the school improvement process which include data analysis, needs assessment, and developing, implementing, and monitoring a plan for improvement. Additional information on reporting requirements, required trainings, and available supports and resources will be announced soon.

Funding

Section 1003 of ESSA authorizes state education agencies to issue funds to LEAs to address the needs of schools identified for improvement and thereby improve student performance. Identified priority non-TTIPS schools and focus non-TTIPS schools are eligible to receive supplemental funds through the Section 1003 School Improvement Priority/Focus grant application.

To receive Section 1003 funds, the district must have identified priority and focus schools for school year 2017–2018 and agree to comply with all intervention requirements. Priority or focus schools identified for school year 2017–2018 who are currently awarded and/or receiving TTIPS funding are not eligible to receive Section 1003 priority and focus school funding for school year 2017–2018. Any school applying to participate in any future TTIPS cycles and awarded future TTIPS funds will forfeit the use of Section 1003 School Improvement Priority/Focus funds on the TTIPS awarded campus.

Districts with identified priority and focus schools are eligible to receive supplemental funds through the Title I, Section 1003 School Improvement Priority/Focus grant on behalf of their priority and focus schools. Funding allocations per district will be calculated based on the number of eligible priority and focus schools within the district and include the number of students enrolled on the campus (SY2016-2017). The following are estimated amounts of grantee awards:

Priority school		Focus school	
Number of Students	Estimated Allocation	Number of Students	Estimated Allocation
1-500	\$65,000	1-500	\$15,000
501-1000	\$90,000	501-1000	\$20,000
1001-2500	\$140,000	1001-2500	\$25,000
2501-3500	\$190,000	2501-3500	\$30,000
3501+	\$240,000	3501+	\$30,000

To the Administrator Addressed

June 26, 2017

Page 3

These funds must only be used to support district and campus-level school improvement efforts that directly benefit priority and focus schools. Please note: These amounts are estimates only and may be reduced.

The 2017–2018 Texas Title I, Section 1003 School Improvement Priority/Focus school grant will be available to eligible districts via the eGrants system in September 2017. The grant period will run from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018. Pre-award costs are