

10th Annual Title Programs Conference

**Title I: Ensuring College and Career
Readiness for Georgia's Students**

June 19-22, 2012

Atlanta Airport Marriott

4711 Best Road

College Park, GA 30337



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**Parental Notification Guidance
Requirements under Georgia's Title I
ESEA Flexibility Waivers
for
Flexible Learning Plans (FLP)
NCLB Choice Transportation &
Intradistrict Choice Transfer**



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

On February 9, 2012, the US ED offered the GaDOE the opportunity to waive ten (10) ESEA requirements and offer flexibility on behalf of itself, its local educational agencies (LEAs), and its schools, in order to better focus on improving student learning and increasing the quality of instruction.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Two of the ten requested waivers directly affected Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (Choice) under No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Under the GaDOE 's ESEA Flexible Waiver Title I schools will now move from a needs improvement (NI) status based on adequate yearly progress (AYP) to a CCRPI—Reward, Priority, Focus, and Alert Schools status.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Of the ten requirements listed above, this guidance is addressing the waiver of requirements under section 1114 poverty percentage requirement of 40 percent or more to be considered a schoolwide Title I program; 1116 specific to public school choice (Choice) and supplemental educational services (SES); and section 1117 Academic Achievement Awards for Title I Distinguished School and Title I Distinguished Districts.



ESEA Flexibility Waiver Flexible Learning Plan (FLP) &

Parental Involvement Notifications & Communications



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FLP Parental Involvement Notification Requirements

Parent Notification Requirements

Local educational agencies (LEAs) must meet specific requirements around section 1116(b) and 1116(c) regarding the responsibilities for parental notification and publicly reporting results. LEAs must ensure that minimum program consultation and participation requirements in section 1118 have been met for each of the Title I Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) programs concerning the district's ***Flexible Learning Program (FLP), NCLB Choice and Intradistrict Choice Transfer Option.***



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Required Parent Notifications for Priority, Focus, Alert, and Reward Schools

Parent notifications were not part of the ESEA Flexibility Waiver and all parental notifications federal rules and regulations are still in place under Section 1118.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Required Parent Notifications for Priority, Focus, Alert, and Reward Schools

- All Title I Priority and Focus Schools are required to send notices to parents describing the school's status, sharing data and information used to support programming decisions, and explaining how parents may become involved in improving the school.
- Parental notifications were not part of the ESEA Flexibility Waiver and all parental notifications federal rules and regulations are still in place.



Flexible Learning Plan (FLP) & Parental Involvement

Required Interventions for Priority and Focus Schools

- All Title I Priority and Focus Schools must offer a Flexible Learning Program (FLP).
- All Title I Priority and Focus Schools must develop a written plan that outlines how the Title I Priority and Focus Schools will implement an FLP with the involvement of all parents.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- LEAs must notify parents of the availability of FLP services at least twice annually:
 - Notification to parents must be by ***dated letter*** at least twice annually
 - It must include information regarding their child's eligibility regarding for FLP prior to the beginning of the program



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- Notification to parents must include when FLP services will begin at their child's school each year
- Notification must include a brief description of the FLP programs to parents and how eligible students can participate



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- Notification must contain information to ensure that parents understand the identification of their child's school as it relates to Priority, Focus, Alert, or Reward Schools status by definition and includes information regarding the State required test data on which the school's identification was based



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- Notification must explain to parents that Priority and Focus Schools will be served for a period of three years with supports and interventions beginning in July 2012
- Notification must explain the benefits of receiving FLP



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- Notification must provide a clear explanation of the steps that parents/guardians must make to enroll their children in the LEA's FLP
- Notification must include a contact name, mailing address, phone number, e-mail address, and/or fax number in the event that parent(s) have questions regarding the LEA's FLP



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- Notification to parents must be made through various forms of communication: information flyers, school/LEA newsletters, community/neighborhood newspaper, school Web page, school meeting, LEA meeting, teacher/parent conference, LEA Web page, FLP parent information packet, etc.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- LEAs **must** use a variety methods to notify parents of FLP services, such as:
 - Public Service Announcements (PSAs) via radio and television stations.
 - Newspaper advertisements providing pertinent information regarding the LEA's FLP.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

FLP Parent Notification Requirements

- LEAs **must** use a variety methods to notify parents of FLP services, such as:
 - Copies of community billboard notifications.
 - LEA/school monthly media calendar with FLP information regarding parent meetings, FLP plan revisions, and updates.
 - Emails notifications to parents and other stakeholders.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Required Parental Involvement for Priority, Focus and Alert Schools

- An LEA **must** consult with parents, along with other stakeholders, in developing its FLP plan.
 - At least one parent meeting designed to explain the LEAs plan for providing FLP services must be held
 - All parents of eligible Title I students must be involved in the development of the FLP plan



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Required Parental Involvement for Priority, Focus and Alert Schools

- An LEA **must** consult with parents, along with other stakeholders, in developing its FLP plan.
 - LEAs **must** maintain evidence of collaboration with local community organizations such as, the Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, etc.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Required Parental Involvement for Priority, Focus and Alert Schools

- Again, LEAs **must** use a variety of methods to notify parents of FLP meeting
- LEAs **must** provide parents the opportunity to view first hand FLP services being provided for their children



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Parental Involvement and Collaboration

- The LEA must ensure that all parents of children attending a school offering FLP must be given the opportunity to:
 - Provide input, comments, suggestions and/or ideas as it relates to improving student academic achievement and school performance
 - Collaborate with the development of the FLP



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Parental Involvement and Collaboration

The LEA must:

- Convene a meeting at a time convenient for all parents of children attending schools offering an FLP to inform and to explain the requirements and the rights of all parents to be involved in the FLP planning
- Provide additional parental involvement meetings; if requested by parents and encourage parents to attend these planning meetings



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Parental Involvement and Collaboration

- The LEA FLP parent meeting(s) must be conducted in an **organized, ongoing, timely way** for the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I, Part A Flexible Learning Program to provide parents the opportunity to provide input, suggestions and/or ideas.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Parental Involvement and Collaboration

These collaboration meetings involve the planning, review, and improvement of the following:

- Parental involvement activities
- School parental involvement policy
- School-parent compact
- School improvement plan



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Parental Involvement and Collaboration

These collaboration meetings involve the planning, review, and improvement of the following:

- Targeted assistance plan
- Schoolwide plan
- LEA's Comprehensive Improvement Plan (CLIP) and
- ***Flexible Learning Program (FLP) beginning in the 2012-2013 school year***



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

Parental Involvement and Collaboration

Please Note:

- In preparation for the 2012-2013 FLP Plan, LEA's should prior to the end of the 2011-2012 school year have their parent collaboration FLP planning meeting(s).
- This will ensure the involvement of all parents and community stakeholders.
- LEA's must show evidence by maintaining all required dated documentation.



Title I, Part A Guidance for Implementing Georgia's Title I ESEA *Flexibility Waiver*

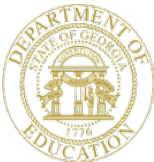
Parental Involvement and Collaboration

Documentation to be Maintained by the LEA

- LEAs will follow the procedures for maintaining appropriate dated documentation as required for Title I, Part A monitoring. Documentation requirements will be reviewed at the fall Cross-Functional Monitoring training.



Guidance for NCLB Public School Choice (Choice)



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Closing Out Guidance for NCLB Public School Choice (Choice)

NCLB Choice

- NCLB Choice is being replaced by State law (O.C.G.A. § §–20-2-2130–20-2-2131) Intradistrict Transfer.
- LEAs are no longer required to pay for the transportation of students who have selected to transfer to another school beginning in the **2012-2013** school year.



Closing Out Guidance for NCLB Public School Choice (Choice)

NCLB Choice

- An LEA may continue to pay for NCLB Choice transportation for students, if they choose. It is an allowable expense.
- **LEAs must notify all parents of schools that had to offer NCLB Choice, by letter of their 2012-2013 NCLB Choice transportation plan prior to the end of May 2012.**



Closing Out Guidance for NCLB Public School Choice (Choice)

NCLB Choice

Sample FY13

Public School Choice Information Parent Template Needs to be Sent no later than May 30, 2012

District/School Name

District/School Address

District/School Contact Phone Number

District /School Email Address

Date:

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

This letter is to inform you that as of May 2012, there will no longer be a Public School Choice (Choice) transfer option under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) as reauthorized under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), and local educational agencies (LEAs) will no longer be required to implement Choice or pay for Choice transportation as implemented under the NCLB. The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE), submitted to the United States Department of Education (US ED), a flexibility waiver requesting flexibility through ten ESEA requirements and their associated, regulatory, administrative and reporting requirements. One of the ten requested waivers directly affects the Public School Choice (Choice) transportation under ESEA.

Under Georgia's Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver that was approved on February 9, 2012; Title I Schools no longer have to provide Public School Choice under the No Child Left Behind of 2001 (NCLB) but rather has reverted to **Georgia's Intradistrict Transfer Option**.



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Closing Out Guidance for NCLB Public School Choice (Choice)

NCLB Choice

Any student that has previously transferred to another school by exercising the ESEA Choice must be allowed to attend that school until they complete the school's highest grade; however, **the LEA is no longer required to pay** for the students' transportation cost during the duration of the student's attendance at their current Choice school. The LEA may continue to pay for Choice transportation for students **only if the LEA chooses to do so.**

However, parents will still have the Choice transfer under Georgia's, INTRADISTRICT TRANSFERS Option. The Georgia INTRADISTRICT TRANSFERS Option allows parents' of students enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school to enroll in a school other than the assigned school that is located within the school district, if classroom space is available after the assigned students of that district have been enrolled. In addition, under the Georgia INTRADISTRICT TRANSFERS Option, transportation **will not** be paid for by the district. The parent shall assume the responsibility and cost of transportation of the student to and from the school.

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding Georgia's INTRADISTRICT TRANSFERS Option, please contact: (district contact name) _____, (position) _____, (phone number) _____, or (email address) _____.

Thank you,

District Name



Closing Out Guidance for NCLB Public School Choice (Choice) Exception

NCLB Choice

- A student who is already taking advantage of NCLB Choice must be permitted to remain at his or her school until he or she has completed the highest grade in that school.

However, the responsibility and cost of transportation of the student to and from the school will be assumed by the parent. The LEA is not required to pay for, nor provide transportation for any student who chooses to do so. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide transportation to and from school until the student completes his/her highest grade in that school.



LEA Notification to Parents under NCLB Public School Choice (Choice)

NCLB Choice

- In addition, LEAs *may* pay for NCLB Choice transportation by way of providing buses or parent reimbursement.
- ***The GADOE strongly encourages LEA's to consider providing school bus transportation or parent/guardian reimbursements for students who have received Choice transportation and will be entering their 12th grade year in 2012-2013.***



LEA Notification to Parents under NCLB Public School Choice (Choice)

Parent Notification Regarding NCLB Public School Choice Students

- NCLB Choice students have the exact same rights and responsibilities as all students of the school they attend.
- NCLB Choice students must follow same policies, procedures, and rules that the school district has in place for all students at their school(s) should apply to these students.
- Technically, NCLB Choice students are not transfer students. They transferred due to the NCLB law and are students of the school.



House Bill 251: Intradistrict School Choice Transfer Option

(O.C.G.A. § § 20-2-2130–20-2-2131

Enacted into law as Act 164 on May 05, 2009



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House Bill 251: Intradistrict School Choice Transfer Option

Beginning with school year 2012 – 2013, NCLB Public School Choice (Choice) option is being replaced by State law

House Bill 251: Intradistrict School Choice Transfer Option

(O.C.G.A. § § 20-2-2130–20-2-2131)



Intradistrict School Choice Transfer Option

Intradistrict School Choice Parent Notification Requirements

- The Intradistrict School Choice Transfer Option maybe referred to as another name in your LEA.
- Your LEA may also have addition guidelines or procedures that school district follows as it relates to determining how students are approved/declined for transfer.



Intradistrict School Choice Transfer Option

Parent Notification Requirements

- LEAs **must** notify parents of the availability of the Intradistrict Transfer option annually:
 - Parent notification should be dated no later than July 1st of the upcoming school year.
- ✓ **Please inform parents that students may/may not be granted a transfer in the dated parent notification letter.**



Intradistrict School Choice Transfer Option

Parent Notification Requirements

- LEAs **must** notify parents of the availability of the Intradistrict Transfer option annually:
 - Parent notification should be dated no later than ***July 1st*** of the upcoming school year.



Intradistrict Transfer Option for Parents

Intradistrict Transfer Requirements

- The Intradistrict Transfer option allows a parent/guardian the option to request a transfer from the child’s assigned school, to a school of the parent’s choice within the school zone/district in which the child resides.



Intradistrict Transfer Option for Parents

Intradistrict Transfer Requirements

- Transfers will be granted to children, only if there is available classroom space at the school that the parent chooses to transfer their child.
- Parent/guardians are responsible for the transportation to and from school if the Intradistrict Transfer is granted.



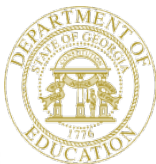
Intradistrict Transfer

Important to Note

- It is the responsibility of each LEA to develop and implement local policy, procedures, and processes for and consistent with (O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-2130–20-2-2131) Intradistrict Transfer.



QUESTIONS?



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