

Title I Funds

How a Freshman Transition Course and School-wide Initiative Addresses Requirements of Title I, Part A

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act is aimed at improving the academic achievement of disadvantaged students. If your school receives Title I funds this may be another possible funding source for your Freshman Transition efforts.

Title I funds are reserved for public school programs serving students from low-income families. However, under Title I, Part A, Section 1114:

"IN GENERAL- A local educational agency may consolidate and use funds under this part, together with other Federal, State, and local funds, in order to upgrade the entire educational program of a school that serves an eligible school attendance area in which not less than 40 percent of the children are from low-income families, or not less than 40 percent of the children enrolled in the school are from such families."

As a result, schools at which at least 40 percent of students come from low-income families are eligible to use Title I funds for <u>school-wide programs to raise academic achievement by improving instruction throughout the entire school</u>.

Because *Career Choices* has demonstrated "effectiveness in reducing dropout rates and supporting higher achievement in reading and math" it would be a great core for a required Freshman Transition program that could impact all incoming students. By integrating the optional academic supplements, it supports the main objective of Title I: *ensuring all children meet challenging state standards*. And, by revisiting and revising students' 10-year plans in subsequent years as a part of their academic coursework, you'll create an exemplary school-wide program.