

Supplemental Educational Services

Questions and Answers

What are supplemental educational services?

Supplemental educational services are additional academic instruction designed to increase the academic achievement of students in schools that have not met State targets for increasing student achievement (adequate yearly progress) for three or more years. These services may include tutoring and after-school services. They may be offered through public- or private-sector providers that are approved by the state, such as public schools, public charter schools, local education agencies, educational service agencies and faith-based organizations. Private-sector providers may be either nonprofit or for-profit entities. States must maintain **a list of approved providers** across the state organized by the school district or districts they serve, from which parents may select (see Q-and-A below "Can parents choose providers for tutoring and other supplemental educational services?"). States must also promote maximum participation by supplemental educational services providers to ensure that parents have as many choices as possible.

Which children are eligible to receive supplemental educational services?

Students from low-income families who remain in Title I schools that fail to meet state standards for at least three years are eligible to receive supplemental educational services. In South Dakota, the schools in need of improvement are referred to by the different levels. Supplemental Educational Services are available for schools in Level 2, 3 or 4 of school improvement.

Are parents notified about supplemental educational services?

Yes. Local education agencies are required to provide annual notice to parents of eligible children about the availability of services and information on the approved providers.

Can parents choose providers for tutoring and other supplemental educational services?

Yes, parents of eligible children can choose from the list of state-approved providers. Most states have approved a diverse list of providers, as mentioned above. Upon request, the local education agency will help parents determine which provider would best fit their child's needs. When parents have made their selection, the local education agency must then contract with that provider to deliver the services.

What action can parents take if their child is eligible for tutoring or other supplemental educational services, but their school or district does not offer them?

Districts receiving Title I funds must offer free tutoring and other extra help to eligible students, as described above. If eligible students are not being offered these services, parents are encouraged to contact their state department of education.

How are providers of supplemental educational services held accountable?

States must develop and apply objective criteria for evaluating providers and monitor the quality of services that they offer. In addition, supplemental services providers must give to parents, as well as to the school, information on their children's progress.

Are there limits to the amount a district is required to pay for SES per student?

Yes. The actual cost of services can be equal to the amount of Title I funds the district receives for each low-income child or the cost of the services themselves, whichever is the lesser amount.