



# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## FY26 ESEA Consolidated FAQ

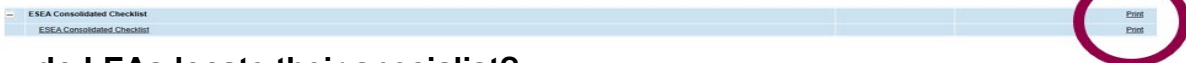
### GENERAL/APPROVAL

- **We heard that our initial ESEA allocations will be about 20% of what we might eventually be allocated. Is this accurate?**  
LEAs are being allocated 90% of what is projected to be their FY26 allocation.
- **Substantial approval hasn't been mentioned. Has that gone away?**  
No, the substantial approval process has not changed.
- **If an LEA submits the grant in approvable form in August (instead of prior to July 1) does that mean the LEA's substantial approval date will be August (instead of July 1)?**  
Correct, the substantial approval date is based on the date the grant is initially submitted.
- **Is there a place in the grant to specify that the LEA has no private schools?**  
No, this is done on the Notice of Intent to Participate. The LEA will check three boxes in the section labeled LEAs with no private schools.

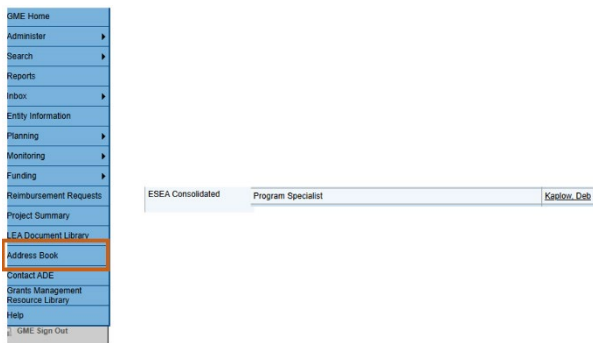
**LEAs with no private schools:** Check all boxes as verification of due diligence and sign the form.

<input type="checkbox"/>	The LEA has done due diligence locating potential private schools.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The LEA has no eligible private schools in the area.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The LEA is unaware of any private schools serving their student(s).

- **What is the best way to print different pages/sections in the grant application?**  
Pages should be printed from the Sections page. Locate the page needing to print. To the right of the page is a print link. If nothing opens to print, check to make sure there is not a pop-up blocker.



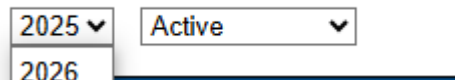
- **How do LEAs locate their specialist?**  
Assigned Title I/II/RLIS specialists are identified in the LEA's Address Book.



All assigned specialists for the ESEA application may also be found on the Academic Achievement homepage (<https://www.azed.gov/ese>) by clicking on Find My Specialist that is located in the Contact Us box.

## PLANNING TOOL

- **In reference to the Title I-A program questions being added to the planning tool: With the planning tool being live, will our progress be saved once these updates are made?**  
If this request is approved by Grants Management, this will be an additional page that will be added. School leaders will need to complete it once added. It will have no impact on other pages that have already been completed.
- **May LEAs have access to the new planning tool so we can begin?**  
The planning tool is already live. LEAs may access the tool by changing the year to 2026.



A screenshot of a web form showing a dropdown menu for the year. The current selection is '2025' and the dropdown is open, showing '2026' as an option. To the right of the year dropdown is another dropdown menu with the text 'Active' and a downward arrow.

- **Must single site LEAs update anything in the district stakeholder section?**  
No, this is not necessary. We have requested that the \* (meaning required) be removed so this burden is removed. Completing the district level stakeholder section of the planning tool only applies to multi-site LEAs.
- **When must LEAs update their stakeholder team?**  
The stakeholder team must be updated any time the LEA makes a change to a stakeholder.

## SECTIONS/PAGES

- **Will the GEPA questions remain the same? Is the SEA requiring the answers to be more specific?**  
Yes, the questions are the same throughout all funding applications in GME. Responses must be specific to each fund and reflective of the LEA practices of ensuring equity for all students, educators, and other program beneficiaries.
- **Where do LEAs upload the completed ESEA Assurances?**  
The full ESEA Assurance document may be found in the LEA Document Library. The LEA Entity Authorized Signer (must match what is in the LEA Address Book) must download the document, read it, sign it and then upload the signed document in the LEA's Document Library.
- **Will there be specific guidance on completing the School Eligibility page, particularly when using CEP programs?**  
LEAs may email the Academic Achievement inbox to receive support on completing the School Eligibility page if they are moving to CEP or if they are wanting to ensure they are accurately reflecting CEP data ([ESEA@azed.gov](mailto:ESEA@azed.gov)). Please also see a new resource on Income Eligibility data which may also be found on the Academic Achievement website: [Income Eligibility Data Resource](#)
- **Must low Income data be based on October 1 or may it be the 40<sup>th</sup> or 100<sup>th</sup> day?**  
All data must be based on previous year's October 1 data as referenced throughout the funding application.
- **Will LEAs be able to provide feedback in the history log?**  
The History Log remains the official communication log between the LEA and SEA.

- **Do the Equitable Service/Private School sections apply to charter schools?**  
No, charter schools do not have boundaries and do not have the equitable service requirement.
- **Will the PPA page still exist?**  
Yes, the PPA page still exists.
- **Will the SEA take the LEA's word that they are meeting their obligation based on what they have allocated on the LEA's PPA page?**  
LEAs sign assurances when accepting funds that they know, agree to, and will meet all grant requirements. Even when the SEA is not asking for proof, the LEA must always meet all grant requirements. While the SEA is not having the LEA demonstrate contributory budgets upfront, LEAs will be required to verify how funds were spent on a revised Completion Report (requested) once the project ends.

## SET ASIDES

- **In reference to Set Aside 1, funds reserved for administering the grant only: May travel and registration for conferences such as ESSA, COP, and National conferences related to administering the grant be reserved in Set Aside 1?**  
The LEA may place any activity in Set Aside 1 that is justified as for the direct purpose of administering the grant. Therefore, if the federal program director registers for a conference to stay on top of laws and regulations directly aligned to the funding application, that is allowable under Set Aside 1.
- **Will LEAs still identify set aside expenses, as set asides, in the budget? Would that get its own line?**  
No, set aside labels are no longer required in the budget narrative. All budgeted activities will be reflected in the budget without labels, unless they are outliers. They should be grouped together by like item. Nothing should be labeled unless it is an outlier. For example, all paras may be grouped by project they serve, all homeless liaisons may be grouped, and all coaches may be grouped.
- **Which LEAs are required to set aside funds for the newly added foster care set aside?**  
This is an optional set aside. Several LEAs already set aside funds for this optional set aside. In the past, there was no place on the Set Aside page to reserve these funds.

## BUDGET

- **Must LEAs submit their Title I budget in this new manner to be approved, or may LEAs continue to break it apart by site?**  
The SEA is asking that LEAs follow this new guidance. This will allow specialists to approve grants quicker and get funds to the field faster. The SEA will create and post a tool to support LEAs in this process.
- **How will benefits be written?**  
Benefits may be grouped per section such as Instructional Staff Benefits = \$xxx. The SEA will create an addendum to the Budget narrative guidance for additional support.
- **Where would the specific school site be labeled in budget if the activity is an outlier?**  
The school label, if needed, may be written at the beginning of the activity.

## REVISIONS

- **What would a budget revision look like with this change?**  
For the ESEA Consolidated application only, the SEA will be utilizing the Grants Management

Enterprise system as intended. As each revision is submitted, the LEA should only reflect what is actual. There should be no copy/paste, changing numbers, leaving old items, or noting where funds were moved/changed. Everything will be done just as it is in revision 0.

- **In writing a grant revision do we keep original ask and show the new revision total?**

No, items not funded should be deleted. Only items being requested each revision should be reflected as well as the actual amount requested for each activity.

- **Will this new revision process be true for all funding applications through GME or only for ESEA?**

This is the process for the ESEA Consolidated as of now. Please check with other program areas for area specific revision requirements.

- **For Revisions for 24-25 should we stay with existing format or use the new format?**

LEAs may begin this process with their FY25 applications. If they choose to do so, we ask that you let your specialist know by emailing them. Please work with the LEA's program specialist for additional information or support.