

## Innovative Program Eligible Activities

**Title V funds may be used by local education agencies to support any of the eight innovative program assistance areas listed below.**

1. Technology - related to the implementation of school-based reform programs, including professional development to assist teachers and other school officials in how to effectively use such equipment and software. Examples for using Title V funds under this area might include distance learning, interactive television, Internet, technology labs, and networking. Districts might further consider funding programs that incorporate the uses of technology in instruction or in providing instruction in the use of technology.
2. Acquisition of Materials - programs for the acquisition of instructional and educational materials, including library services and materials (including media materials), assessments, reference materials, computer hardware and software for instructional use, and other curricular materials which are tied to high academic achievement and which are part of an overall education reform program. Examples for using Title V funds under this area might include:
  - Instructional or educational materials to be housed in the library/media center such as reference materials, CD-ROMs, hardware/software necessary to access other library catalogs, videos, and audiotapes.
  - Computer hardware/software not purchased as part of a technology program, but as part of another educational reform effort.
  - Other instructional materials such as math manipulatives, graphing calculators, and hands-on science manipulatives.
3. Educational Reform Projects - Title V funds can be used for promising education reform products such as reading recovery and accelerated schools. Unique instructional strategies involving a significant shift from past practices may also be included.
4. Programs for At-Risk Students - Title V funds are to be used under this area to improve the higher order thinking skills of disadvantaged elementary and secondary school students and to prevent students from dropping out of school. Examples of potential usage of funds might include tutoring, mentoring programs, internships, experiential learning, community outreach programs, etc.
5. Literacy - programs to combat illiteracy in the student and adult populations, including parent illiteracy. Title V funds can be used for programs to enhance literacy skills in students; programs to enhance literacy skills in the adult population; and family literacy programs.
6. Gifted and Talented Programs - programs that provide for the educational needs of gifted and talented children. Title V funds can be used by districts to purchase supplementary materials for existing gifted and talented programs, for summer enrichment programs, or to provide professional development necessary to implement programs for gifted and talented students.
7. Goals 2000 Reform - school reform activities that are consistent with the Goals 2000: Educate America Act. Title V funds can be used to enhance programs to get children ready to learn (preschool education programs; to increase graduation rates, for competency in core subjects, including math and science; for professional development; to increase literacy; for safe and drug free schools programs; and for parent involvement. An LEA does not have to have an approved Goals 2000 plan or project to expend Title V funds for this innovative program assistance area.
8. School Improvement - programs or activities that fall under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001, which reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Title V funds can be used to supplement school assessment, school improvement, program improvement, and school support activities.

Note: Professional Development - The United States Department of education was asked whether Title V funds may be used for professional development activities, despite the fact that such activities do not appear as a separate innovative assistance area under Title V (except in connection with technology). The USDE responded in its Nonregulatory Guidance that “[it] believes that, as long as a [district] can justify professional development activities as a reasonable and necessary cost with respect to the specific Title V program the [participating school] is implementing, the [district] may use Title V funds to support such activities.”