

Student Support Services: Bridge the Gap Between Your School, Community, and Families

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Through the Family Connections program, Catapult Learning can strengthen the family's ability to support the academic and non-academic needs of children while teaching your faculty and staff ways to engage with families.

- Foster stronger relationships with student families
- Spend more time focusing on student academic achievement and staff development

SCHOOL COUNSELING

While students' needs are becoming increasingly complex, school counseling services are frequently unavailable. Catapult Learning's credentialed, committed, master's level counselors can supplement your counseling staff or provide turnkey counseling for students or groups of students who need extra support for behavioral, academic, social, and emotional challenges. They provide support for students—and include parents and teachers when appropriate.

Through this program, school counselors, staffed by Catapult Learning, work as a team with the school staff, parents, and the community to create a caring environment where students become healthy, competent, and confident learners.



Federal Programs for Student Support Services

The chart below explains the ESSA programs that can provide funding for **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**, gives a brief statement of program purpose, and explains how students can be qualified for program services, describes the definition of educational need, and provides tips as to how the funds can be effectively used, depending on the circumstances.

ESSA PROGRAM	QUALIFICATION/CONSIDERATION	DEFINITION OF NEED	TIPS
<p>TITLE I Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged</p> <p>PURPOSE To provide high-quality supplemental instruction and to close achievement gaps.</p>	<p>Student meets definition of educational need determined through consultation and resides in a Title I attendance area. Title I under ESSA specifically lists services that include instructional services, counseling, mentoring, and one-on-one tutoring. These services can be provided individually or in combination. Equitable services require that the LEA be open to discussing and possibly offering all allowable services; the LEA cannot limit otherwise allowable services without timely and meaningful consultation.</p> <p>One percent of Title I funds allocated to serve private school students must be set aside for parental involvement activities.</p>	<p>The elements defining educational need must be age-appropriate, objective, and consist of at least two measures. Examples of measures of educational need are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test score at or below a cut-off percentile • In-class assessments in reading/ language arts and/or math • Teacher indications of classroom/ learning issues • Report card grades • Parent concerns and recommendations • Portfolio of work in class and completed at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some students, while showing academic need, could benefit specifically from an intervention program that is not academic or not exclusively academic in nature. • The characteristics that define educational need should include dispositions in the classroom, executive functioning, ability to relate to and get along with others, etc. These additional elements can help define if the students would benefit from interventions that include counseling or Family Connections in addition to or in place of academic intervention services to improve their academic achievement. • Family Connections can be funded in whole or in part through the PI funding or to extend the services available through Family Connections if instructional funds are not sufficient.
<p>TITLE IVA Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants</p> <p>PURPOSE To promote access to a well-rounded education, improve conditions for student learning, and improve the use of technology for academic achievement. The three categories of uses for funds are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Well-Rounded Education 2. Safe and Healthy Students 3. Effective Use of Technology 	<p>Funds are distributed on a per-pupil basis according to the number of children attending the private school located in the LEA, regardless of where the child resides.</p> <p>Private school officials can request that funds be used in any of the three categories under Title IVA. There is no requirement that funds be distributed among the three categories for the private school program.</p> <p>Note that ESSA does not define the term “counseling.” Some states may provide a definition. Title I is and students benefiting from a counseling program must still meet the definition of educationally needy. However, Title IVA is not as restrictive. Therefore, it is possible that counseling under Title IVA may look different than counseling under Title I, particularly when provided under the category of Safe and Healthy Students.</p>	<p>Private school officials, during consultation, can articulate general need for their students focusing on one or more of the three categories for expenditure of funds, or can focus their request on a specific group of students. For example, you might articulate a general need to support emotional and educational adjustment to school. Or, perhaps you wanted to add a counseling component for your Title I students, but funding was insufficient. Title IVA could provide counseling and focus on this group of students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counseling is specifically mentioned as a possible service under the well-rounded education category. Counseling and Family Connections would be appropriate support under the Safe and Healthy Students expenditures as well. • Private school officials should be prepared to demonstrate how the use of counseling will meet the needs of students with educational need and best support a well-rounded education. • Counseling and Family Connections paid from Title IVA funds can focus on Title I students if there are insufficient funds to provide counseling or Family Connections through the Title I program. • If counseling or the Family Connections program is supported by the Title I program, it can be extended to other students who are not Title I-eligible through Title IVA funding.