



Title I, Part A Funding Criteria & *Lexia Reading*[®]



IMPROVING BASIC PROGRAMS
OPERATED BY LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES

Federal	
Grant	Description
<p>Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (Title I, Part A) CFDA #: 84.010A Amount: \$14,492,401,000 http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/index.html</p>	<p>The Title I, Part A program provides financial assistance to LEAs and schools with high numbers or high percentages of poor children...to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. More than 50,000 public schools across the country use Title I funds to provide additional academic support and learning opportunities; for example, funds support extra instruction in reading and mathematics, as well as special preschool, after-school, and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum. This funding is a basic allocation provided by the federal government on a yearly basis. Distribution dates are July 1, 2009 and October 1, 2009.</p>
<p>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009: Title I, Part A Funds for Grants to Local Education Agencies (ARRA Title I, Part A) CFDA #: 84.389A Amount: \$10,000,000,000 http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/titlei/fy09recovery/index.html</p>	<p>The ARRA Title I, Part A program finances the additional academic support and learning opportunities that are often required to help disadvantaged students progress along with their classmates. The ARRA Title I, Part A funds create an unprecedented opportunity for educators to implement innovative strategies in Title I schools. These strategies focus on improving education for at-risk students and closing the achievement gaps while also stimulating the economy. The additional resources provided by ARRA will enable LEAs to serve more students beyond the approximately 20 million currently served and boost the quality of teaching and learning. This funding is provided in addition to the basic allocation and is only available for a two-year period. Distribution dates are April 1, 2009 (50%) and by September 30, 2009.</p>

Funding Purpose:

TITLE I, PART A – Improving Academic Achievement of the Disadvantage

The bulk of federal NCLB funds are devoted to Title I, Part A. *“The purpose of this title is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.”*

ARRA TITLE I, PART A – Stimulus Funding

The purpose of this funding is to supplement the yearly Title I, Part A allocation and to stimulate the economy, as part of Obama’s stimulus program. Because the ARRA funds constitute a large increase in Title I, Part A funding that will likely not be available at the same level beyond September 30, 2011, schools and LEAs have a unique opportunity to improve teaching and learning and should focus these funds on short-term investments with the potential for long-term benefits rather than make ongoing commitments that they might not be able to sustain once ARRA funds are expended. Specific guidelines are located at: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/guidance/title-i.pdf>; however, much of the funding follows the basic tenants of the yearly Title I, Part A allocations.

TITLE I, PART A – Requirements and *Lexia Reading*’s Key Elements:

Below are selected Title I, Part A requirements followed by the key elements of *Lexia Reading* program that relate to these requirements.

▶ **Title I, Part A Requirement:**

Ensuring that high-quality academic assessments, accountability systems, teacher preparation and training, curriculum, and instructional materials aligned with challenging State academic standards so students, teachers, parents, and administrators can measure progress against common expectation for student academic achievement. *Lexia Reading* is steeped in sound educational design. All of Lexia’s products follow the proven approach recommended by the National Reading Panel, Reading First, and leading experts. Students learn skills in sequence, logically building an understanding, while gaining competency and preparing for the next skill. Computerized diagnostic assessments screen for at-risk students. Reports diagnose a student’s skill level and identify areas where practice or instruction is needed for an individual or for a whole class, school, or district. This data helps teachers and administrators monitor their students’ progress.

The *Lexia Reading* program aligns to state academic standards, DIBELS, and some publishers' reading programs.

- State Standards... *Lexia Reading* currently is correlated to the following state standards: Arkansas, California, Florida, Indiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

- DIBELS... *Lexia Reading* currently is correlated to DIBELS, including documents entitled:

From DIBELS Benchmark Assessment to Lexia Intervention

Kindergarten Correlations to Lexia Software to DIBELS

First Grade Correlations to Lexia Software to DIBELS

Second Grade Correlations of Lexia Software to DIBELS

Third Grade Correlations to Lexia Software to DIBELS

- Reading Publishers... *Lexia Reading* currently is correlated to four reading publishers: *Harcourt Trophies*-Core Reading Correlations, *Houghton Mifflin*-Core Reading Correlations, *Open Court*-Core Reading Correlations, and *Scott Foresman*-Core Reading Correlations.

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Meeting the educational needs of low-achieving children in our Nation's highest-poverty schools, limited English proficient children, migratory children, children with disabilities, Indian children, neglected or delinquent children, and young children in need of reading assistance. Outcome studies evaluating Lexia products have shown their effectiveness with multi-ethnic populations in Texas, Massachusetts, Utah, Connecticut, and the United Kingdom. To date, these studies have included over 1500 students in more than 20 different schools. The use of Lexia assessments and reading skills development software supported achievement gains by study groups that proved to be significantly superior to those achieved by control groups receiving equal amounts of traditional instruction and practice.

Students on Individual Education Plans require intensive levels of instruction provided through a carefully developed and monitored educational plan. *Lexia Reading* programs supplement the instructional needs of these students and support professional teaching staff in their efforts to meet the unique educational challenges of special education students. Lexia's emphasis on explicit, systematic and structured skills development is ideally suited for students with diagnosed learning disabilities. Lexia's reporting features provide real-time data on student performance and identify immediately to educators where students are struggling.

Lexia Reading provides the practice that ELL students need to master important reading skills in English...intensive instruction in phonological awareness to build decoding skills. *Lexia Reading*:

- addresses the sound-symbol correlations which are difficult for ELL students;
- provides the correct pronunciation of English sounds for ELL students;
- provides instruction on the 6 syllable types, helping ELL students understand why vowel sounds are not consistent; and
- provides multiple opportunities to practice newly acquired phonic skills.



Title I, Part A Requirement:

Closing the achievement gap between high- and low-performing children, especially the achievement gaps between minority and nonminority students, and between disadvantaged children and their more advantaged peers. All of Lexia's products are designed according to the latest scientific findings in education and interface design and are tested for outcomes in schools...best practices focusing on closing of the achievement gap. Lessons are scripted and multi-sensory instructionally designed to teach a specific skill. *Lexia Reading* will suggest a Lexia Lesson if a student is struggling with a skill and has repeated a unit three or more times. These lessons are designed for teachers to use with individuals or in small groups of struggling readers. Each Lexia Lesson utilizes four different mnemonic strategies to promote memory and retrieval of the specific skill - contextual stories, gestures, visualization, and multi-sensory associations.

Differentiated instruction is a proven method of closing the achievement gap between high- and low-performing children. *Lexia Reading* provides ongoing, dynamic assessment of reading skills and progress, enabling educators to foster students' reading success by informing and differentiating reading instruction.

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Holding schools, local educational agencies, and States accountable for improving the academic achievement of all students, and identifying and turning around low-performing schools that have failed to provide a high-quality education to their students, while providing alternatives to students in such schools to enable the students to receive a high-quality education. Schools, LEAs, and states are held accountable for improving academic achievement for all students, particularly in core academic areas. The Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) published a review of *Lexia Reading* in June, 2008. The FCRR found that *Lexia Reading* is a "Comprehensive Intervention Reading Program" able to address the needs of students in a wide range of grades and skill levels.

FCRR noted the strengths of the program:

- intensive, structured and systematic practice that is aligned with research;
- quick, immediate feedback follows the student's response;
- for older students, phonological awareness is developed in conjunction with phonic word attack strategies; and
- web-enabled to allow for a home-school connection.

Response to Intervention (RtI)... Incorporating scientifically-based best practices, *Title I, Part A* places great emphasis on a Response-to-Intervention (RtI) model. *Lexia Reading* is an effective, scalable RtI tool, leveraging teachers' instructional time, and providing the needed practice, additional paper-based instruction, and skills practice to enable students to learn to read. In fact, national initiatives such as the Response to Intervention (RTI) instructional model require that instruction and remediation be structured to meet the needs of the struggling students by using the most intensive interventions. More specifically, *Lexia Reading* fosters the use of the program in all three tiers of RtI:

1. RtI/Lexia Reading - Tier I

(Instruction for students on or above-level)

- a. Early Reading can be started and completed in Kindergarten.
- b. Primary Reading can be used in Kindergarten through grade 3 after mastery of the skills presented in Early Reading.
- c. Strategies for Older Students
 - i. Used in grades 2 and 3 after completing Primary Reading (start at Level 3)
 - ii. Used in grade 4 and above as additional enrichment (Levels 4 & 5).

2. RtI/Lexia Reading - Tier II

(Instruction for students who are at-risk)

- a. Early Reading can be used in Kindergarten and grade 1.
- b. Primary Reading can be used in Kindergarten through grade 4 after mastery of the skills presented in Early Reading.
- c. Strategies for Older Students
 - i. Used in grade 3 after completing Primary Reading (start at Level 3).
 - ii. Used in grade 4 and above as an intervention (start Levels 1-3 based on ability).

3. RtI/Lexia Reading - Tier III

(Instruction for students with identified learning disabilities)

- a. Early Reading can be used in Kindergarten through grade 2.
- b. Primary reading can be used in grade 1 through grade 5 after mastery of the skills presented in Early Reading.
- c. Strategies for Older Students
 - i. Used in grade 4 or 5 after completing Primary Reading (start Level 3).
 - ii. Used in grade 5 and above as intensive remediation (start Level 1).

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Distributing and targeting resources sufficiently to make a difference to local educational agencies and schools where needs are greatest. *Lexia Reading* provides an effective, cost-efficient scalable tool to support reading skill development in students of all ability levels district-wide. *Lexia Reading* has two components: student software that needs to be installed on each student machine and MyLexia, a management system accessed over the Internet that needs to be setup by adding students and educators. These mechanisms facilitate the distribution of the program to targeted locations to improve student academic achievement. Lexia Learning's Customer Support team is dedicated to helping Lexia's customers install and implement the program with ease and efficiency. Customer service is available by phone or email.

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Improving and strengthening accountability, teaching and learning by using State assessment systems designed to ensure that students are meeting challenging State academic achievement and content standards and increasing achievement overall, but especially for the disadvantaged. With similar goals of improving teaching and learning, *Lexia Reading* complements state assessment systems. *Lexia Reading* enables educators to foster students' reading success by informing and differentiating reading instruction. Providing a dynamic, integrated assessment tool that immediately assesses and reports to educators exactly how each student is progressing, *Lexia Reading* provides integrated reports that:

- continuously assesses students' areas of reading skill development, providing a formative assessment tool to educators... highlighting students in need of extra support;
- identifies and groups students for appropriate instruction and practice;
- supervises and promotes adequate use;
- manages, assesses and monitors students individually, and also by group, class, grade, school, or district; and
- links to appropriate printable, lesson plans and student practice sheets.

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Providing children an accelerated educational program, including the use of schoolwide programs or additional services that increase the amount and quality of instructional time.

The key to students' success is in the design of the Lexia programs. The motivational elements provided by the computer interface keeps students engaged and working sequentially and systematically through the foundational reading skills. Automatic branching uses the computer's capacity to analyze student performance, provides additional activities for students who have difficulty, and advances students only after they demonstrate mastery. Because of these features, *Lexia Reading* provides children an accelerated educational program where students spend time learning and practicing areas that specifically address where they need to build skills and competency.

An added feature, *Lexia Reading* provides *Lexia Skill Builders* – printed practice sheets given to student to reinforce newly-acquired skills with extra practice. *Lexia Skill Builders* help students transfer skills from the computer to paper and pencil. Each *Lexia Skill Builder* sheet is written using decodable text to encourage independent student work. Teachers can use *Lexia Skill Builders* as learning center activities, homework, morning work, or extra credit work.

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Promoting schoolwide reform and ensuring the access of children to effective, scientifically-based instructional strategies and challenging academic content. Schoolwide reform has many aspects, including producing academically competent students based on scientifically-based instructional strategies. The *Lexia Reading* program complements schoolwide reform. Lexia Learning, in affiliation with professional research and design consultants, conducts scientifically-based outcomes studies to measure the efficacy of the *Lexia Reading* programs in schools across the country. Studies have been published in three, peer-reviewed research journals. Lexia's Key Findings are:

- *Lexia Reading* improves reading scores in grades K-3 and middle school;
- lowest performing students benefit the most from using *Lexia Reading*;
- Title I students using *Lexia Reading* close the achievement gap;
- benefits of *Lexia Reading* are tied to strong use patterns; and
- teachers strongly endorse *Lexia Reading*.

Lexia research results can be downloaded from:

http://lexialearning.com/files/research/Lexia_Research.pdf

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Significantly elevating the quality of instruction by providing staff in participating schools with substantial opportunities for professional development. *Lexia Reading* provides multiple opportunities and multiple forms of delivery for professional development ranging from webinars to video tutorials, to on-site trainings, and more. More specifically:

- ***Lexia Reading Content Overview***... *Lexia Reading* software supports reading skills development in students at all levels of ability, pre-K through adult, building skills with explicit practice in phonemic awareness and phonics while promoting gains in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- ***Lexia Lessons™ Training Videos*** ... Each Lexia Lesson has explicit directions on how to teach the skills in the lessons to students. Sharon Weiss-Kapp, the author of the lessons, discusses a Lexia Lesson and demonstrates its use with a student.
- ***Narrated Product Tutorials***... Narrated product tutorials are short video demonstrations that guide educators through the basics of using *Lexia Reading*. The tutorial's host describes what educators need to do and then shows exactly how to do it. Notes from the tutorials are able to be printed for additional review.

- ***Webinars & Events***... Lexia's products are designed with the educator in mind. There is every effort to spend time with customers with frequent visits to schools, attending trade shows, and sponsoring user groups. Lexia also offers online webinars where customers can learn how to use *Lexia Reading* most effectively, hear about new features, and ask questions.
- ***Guides & Reference***... Lexia provides resources for getting the most of using *Lexia Reading* in the classroom such as: Quick Reference Cards, Best Practices Guide, *Lexia Reading* Scope & Sequence, Teacher's Guides, Lessons, Posters, Certificates, Templates and Blackline Masters, Achievement Charts, and more.
- ***Classroom Kits***... *Lexia Reading* educators receive complimentary Lexia Classroom Kits with each purchase of *Lexia Reading*. Kits are created for specific grade levels and for Lexia's principals and technology directors. Kits include many supplementary items including Superstars chart/stickers template, parent letter from school template, school-to-home connection letter template, and more.
- ***Community of Learners***... Lexia is building a community of learners across the nation who is using *Lexia Reading* as part of their reading curriculum. As a member of the *Lexia Reading* community, educators are able to access a constantly growing and changing resource of information, tools, materials, and other relevant information to help save time and help students succeed with *Lexia Reading*.

Title I, Part A Requirement:

Affording parents substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children. *Lexia Reading* is web-enabled and hosted by Lexia. This new web-enabled version offers a School-to-Home Connection, extending the school day by providing on-demand access to *Lexia Reading* in homes, libraries, after-school programs, community centers, and summer schools. *Lexia Reading* may be assigned as homework by teachers, and students can access their own personal *Lexia Reading* account from any computer with an Internet connection. There is no additional cost for this School-to-Home access feature. *Lexia Reading* offers printable scripted lessons and practice sheets to help students further hone their reading skills. Additionally, the reporting capabilities of the MyLexia educators' portal allows teachers to create individual student reports that can then be shared with parents to show a student's progress, usage, and skill development.

Lexia Reading is also available to be purchased as a Home version if the child's school does not offer *Lexia Reading*. From the student's perspective, the activities are exactly the same. Where the school version tracks an unlimited number of students, the home version only tracks three students. Additionally, reports are limited to student-level reports (class-level summary reports are not available). *Lexia Reading* can be purchased on a CD for home use. Lexia family versions do not run and are not supported on Windows Vista or Mac Leopard.