

No Child Left Behind Act

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) requires the state education agency, school districts, and individual schools to provide numerous notices to parents, the public, and others. Some of the notices that school districts and/or individual schools are required to give under NCLB include: annual report cards; progress reviews; schools identified for school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring; parental involvement policies; state education agency complaint procedures; teacher and paraprofessional qualifications; non-highly qualified teachers; student achievement information; an informational meeting on Title I, Part A; and a variety of information about the status of English Language Learners. When notice must be given and who must receive the notice differs for each notice.

The U.S. Department of Education's non-regulatory guidance document, *Parental Involvement Title I, Part A*, contains a chart listing the *key* parental notice requirements under Title I, Part A of NCLB, who has to issue the notices, and, when they must be issued. The description of each notice contains references to the relevant statute sections and guidance documents, some of which contain model policies. Download this document at: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/parentinvguid.doc>.

New requirement: Pursuant to the Title I regulations, finalized in October 2008, a school district must notify parents of eligible students of the availability of public school choice at least 14 days before the start of the school year. 34 C.F.R. § 200.37(b)(4)(iv). On April 1, 2009, U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan issued a letter further advising that, if a state's current assessment timeline precludes districts from meeting this 14-day requirement, a one-year waiver may be granted. The October regulations also require local school districts to notify parents of eligible students of the availability of supplemental education services in a manner that is clearly distinguishable from other school improvement information that parents receive. 34 C.F.R. § 200.37(b)(5). The notice must inform parents of the benefits of supplemental education services, and indicate providers who are able to serve students with disabilities or limited English proficient students. 34 C.F.R. § 200.37(b)(5).

The Title I final regulations may be viewed here, along with corrections to the regulations: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/legislation.html>.

View the Secretary's letter, which includes a table of the October 2008 provisions, here: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/secletter/090401.html>.