

May 13, 2026

Subject: Title IV, Part A Public Reporting

Dear Title IV, Part A State Coordinators:

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) is writing to provide updated guidance on State public reporting requirements under Title IV, Part A. This communication builds on the January 2025 letter shared through the Title IV, Part A Technical Assistance Center (T4PA Center) portal and clarifies how State educational agencies (SEAs) may structure their public reporting periods to support transparency.

Summary of January 2025 letter

- States may define their own performance period for the public reporting requirement under section 4104(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA).
- States may establish the time period covered when meeting public reporting requirements under section 4104(a)(2) of the ESEA.
- The Department strongly encourages SEAs to align required local educational agency (LEA) annual reporting with the State public reporting period.
- This flexibility does not modify other SEA reporting, including Uniform Guidance obligations or statutory LEA reporting under ESEA section 4106(e)(2)(F).

Over the past year, many States reported challenges tracking expenditure (ESEA section 4106(e)(2)(F)) and performance (ESEA section 4106(e)(1)(E)) data over extended periods, particularly when carryover funds and multiple Federal fiscal-year awards are available within a single 12-month window. This updated guidance responds to that feedback and aims to simplify reporting while preserving transparency.

Key Clarifications for States

Selecting a Reporting Period:

- States may choose a reporting period that aligns with their existing financial and data system. Options include:
 - The full performance period (i.e., 27 months)
 - Federal fiscal year
 - State fiscal year
 - School year
- The selected period must be applied consistently across all years.

Alignment of Data Reporting:

- States may align both:
 - Content-area spending reporting, and
 - LEA progress toward objectives and outcomes, with the same State-defined reporting period.

- States must report on how funds are being expended by LEAs in each of the three Title IV, Part A content areas, as well as the progress LEAs are making toward the objectives and outcomes in their approved applications.
- If a State collects and reports objectives and outcomes data aligned with the selected reporting period, both content-area spending requirements and progress toward objectives should be reported using that period. For example, if a State uses the school year as its reporting period, the determination of whether an LEA meets content-area spending requirements will be based on that school year rather than on the full award performance period.

Documentation Requirements:

- Public reports should clearly indicate:
 - The reporting period, including exact dates (e.g., “State fiscal year 2026, from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026).
 - Whether the data reflect a single Federal fiscal-year award or multiple awards (e.g., “carryover funds from previous Federal fiscal year included”).

Additional Considerations:

- Selecting a shorter reporting timeframe does not change the 27- month obligation period for each LEA award (i.e., the initial 15-month performance period plus 12 months under the Tydings Amendment).
- Title IV, Part A staff will reach out in the coming months regarding State reporting and will provide technical assistance as needed.

We hope this updated guidance helps States administer the Title IV-A program efficiently while maintaining strong public transparency regarding LEA use of funds and performance. If you have questions or require additional support, please contact us at OESE.TITLE.IV-A@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

//s//

Ruth E. Ryder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education

Appendix

Note: The letter shared through the T4PA portal (see below) concluded that States may determine the time period covered for the required public reporting under section 4104(a)(2) of the ESEA. While the statute does not specifically mandate the timing for the State's public reporting pursuant to section 4106(e)(1)(E), the Department previously advised that it should be done to reflect a Federal fiscal year (FFY).

January 10, 2025

Theresa Billington
Assistant Commissioner
Office of Accountability
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Ave., Room 875 EBA
Albany, NY 12234

Dear Assistant Commissioner Billington:

Thank you for your July 17, 2024, letter expressing your concerns about the statutory public reporting requirements in Title IV, Part A (Title IV-A) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Your letter raises issues regarding the public reporting requirement at section 4104(a)(2) of the ESEA, which states that "Each State that receives an allotment under section 4103 for a fiscal year shall reserve not more than 1 percent of the allotment for the administrative costs of carrying out its responsibilities under this subpart, including public reporting on how funds made available under this subpart are being expended by local educational agencies, including the degree to which the local educational agencies have made progress toward meeting the objectives and outcomes described in section 4106(e)(1)(E)".

The Title IV-A statute outlines requirements for both State educational agency (SEA) and local educational agency (LEA) public reporting. The LEA reporting provides the foundation of the SEA public reporting requirement. In accordance with section 4106(e)(2)(F) of the ESEA, LEAs must report annually, by Federal fiscal year award, their progress toward meeting the content area spending requirements which require that not less than 20 percent of the funds will be used to support access to a well-rounded education, not less than 20 percent of the funds will be used to support safe and healthy students, and a portion of the funds will be used to support the effective use of technology. In addition, for States to meet the requirement of section 4106(e)(1)(E), LEAs must also report to the SEA on their progress toward meeting the objectives and outcomes described in their approved application. Unlike the LEA reporting on the content-area spending requirements, the frequency and the timing of this collection are established by the State. Further, while the statute does not specifically mandate the timing for the State's public

reporting pursuant to section 4106(e)(1)(E), the Department previously advised that it should be done to reflect a Federal fiscal year (FFY).

In your letter, you raise issues regarding the use of the public reporting checklist, the duration of time for reporting on each FFY award, reporting by LEAs on the content-area spending requirements, and reporting by LEAs on their progress towards meeting the objectives and outcomes established for each approved FFY application.

Regarding the checklist, the Department created this document for staff in the Office of Safe and Supportive Schools to support technical assistance conversations with State coordinators. The checklist was shared with States to promote transparency and facilitate these conversations; it is not a requirement for States to complete.

With respect to the other concerns you raised, as well as other feedback the Department has received on the public reporting requirements in section 4104(a)(2), and to assist States in meeting these requirements, the Department has concluded that States may determine the time period covered for the required public reporting under section 4104(a)(2) of the ESEA. For public transparency, the Department asks that States select a reporting period and use that parameter consistently across years. The Department will inform all States of this flexibility. We remind you that this flexibility is only related to the reporting required under this statutory provision and not to other required SEA reporting such as that required in the Uniform Guidance, nor to any of the statutorily-required LEA reporting.

We hope this updated guidance will help you administer your Title IV-A program, while it maintains important public transparency regarding use of Title IV-A funds and LEA performance. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office at OESE.OSSS@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

//s//

Ruth E. Ryder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education