



## School Improvement Grants

**FY 2009 appropriations:  
\$545 million**

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act:  
\$3 billion**

**Grantees:  
States, which make subgrants to school districts**

**Type of Grant:  
Formula to states;  
discretionary to school districts**

**For more information visit  
[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)**

### **Purpose:**

Title I School Improvement Grants provide states and school districts funds to leverage change and turn around Title I schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring. Authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) in 2002, the program did not receive funding until fiscal year 2007. The current \$3.5 billion provides an unprecedented opportunity for states and school districts to implement significant reforms to transform their chronically lowest-achieving schools.

### **Current Program Operations:**

Under the ESEA, states and school districts are required to restructure Title I schools that fail to make adequate yearly progress for five years. Reports indicate that the least rigorous interventions allowable have shown little success in turning around these chronically low-achieving schools, and that the program should be better targeted on the very lowest-performing schools, including the high school “dropout factories”.

The Department of Education will be publishing a notice of proposed program requirements in the Federal Register and will be inviting public comment. The proposed requirements will be also be available at [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).