

State of Vermont Department of Education

May 7-11, 2007

Scope of Review: The U.S. Department of Education's (ED) Office of English Language Acquisition, State Grants Division, conducted an on-site monitoring review of the State of Vermont Department of Education May 7-11, 2007. The purpose was to conduct a comprehensive review of the State of Vermont's administration of the Title III, Part A program authorized by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

During the review, the US Department of Education's monitoring team conducted several monitoring activities. The team reviewed evidence of the implementation of the State's Title III accountability system, State level monitoring, administrative oversight, and technical assistance activities. The review included visits to two local education agencies (LEA's): South Burlington School District, and Burlington School District to assess the depth and breadth of the state's implementation of the Title III requirements.

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Previous Monitoring Findings: This is the first on-site monitoring review of Title III, Part A.

Summary of Title III, Part A Monitoring Indicators

State Submissions			
Element Number	Description	Status	Page
Element 1.1	State Submissions: Follow-up on areas identified through desk audit and document reviews	Reviewed	6
ELP Standards, Assessments and Accountability			
Element Number	Description	Status	Page
Element 3.1	English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards: State English language proficiency standards: the state provided evidence of a process that complies with Section 3113.	Reviewed Recommendation	6
Element 3.2	ELP Assessments: the State provided evidence of a process that complies with Title III section 3113 and evidence that an ELP assessment has been administered to all K-12 LEP students in the State.	Reviewed	6
Element 3.3	New English Language Proficiency Assessment: The state provided evidence of a process that complies with Title III section 3113. Transition to new ELP assessment or revision of the current State ELP assessment aligned to the state developed ELP standards	Reviewed Recommendation	6-7
Element 3.4	Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs): AMAOs have been developed and AMAO determinations have been made for Title III-served LEAs.	Reviewed	7
Element 3.5	Data Collection: The State has established and implemented clear criteria for the administration, scoring, analysis, and reporting components of its ELP assessments, and has a system for monitoring and improving the ongoing quality of its assessment systems. Data system is in place to meet all Title III data requirements, including capacity to follow Title III-served students for two years after exiting; State approach to follow ELP progress and attainment over time.	Finding: Further Action Required	7

State Level Activities; LEA Required Activities, Immigrant Children and Youth

Element Number	Description	Status	Page
Element 4.1	<p>State-Level Activities: Using administrative funds, the State carries out one or more activities that may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional development • Planning, evaluation, administration and interagency coordination • Promoting parental and community participation • Providing recognition to subgrantees that have exceeded AMAO requirements 	Reviewed	7
Element 4.2	<p>Required Subgrantee Activities: The subgrantee must provide high quality language instructional education programs and sustained professional development activities to all classroom teachers of LEP students (including teachers in classroom settings that are not defined as language instructional education programs). Training activities must also include principals, administrators, and other school or community based organization personnel.</p>	Reviewed Commendation	7-8
Element 4.3	<p>Authorized subgrantee Activities: The LEA may use the funds by undertaking one or more authorized activities.</p>	Reviewed	8
Element 4.4	<p>Activities by Agencies Experiencing Substantial Increases in Immigrant Children and Youth: The subgrantee receiving funds under Section 3114(d)(1) shall use the funds to pay for activities that provide enhanced instructional opportunities for immigrant children and youth.</p>	Reviewed	8

State Review of Local Plans

Element Number	Description	Status	Page
Element 5.1	Application: The SEA ensures that its LEAs comply with the provision for submitting an application to the SEA (Section 3116(a)).	Reviewed	8
Element 5.2	Private School Participation: LEAs are complying with NCLB requirements regarding participation of LEP students and teachers in private schools under Title III.	Reviewed	8
Element 5.3	Teacher English Fluency: Certification of teacher fluency requirement in English and any other language used for instruction (Section 3116).	Reviewed	8
State Monitoring of Subgrantees			
Element 6.1	Monitoring: The SEA conducts monitoring of its subgrantees sufficient to ensure compliance with Title III program requirements.	Finding: Further Action Required	8-9
Parental Notification and Participation			
Element 7.1	Parental Notification: Provisions for identification and placement and for not meeting the AMAOs; notification in an understandable format as required under Section 3302.	Reviewed	9

State Submission Indicators

Element 1.1- State Submissions

Reviewed

Fiduciary

Fiscal Monitoring to be conducted at a later time.

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards and Assessments

Element 3.1 –English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards

Reviewed:

The State of Vermont Department of Education has provided evidence that it has a process in place that addresses the requirements in Section 3113.

Recommendation:

During the on-site review, the monitoring team found that some teachers were not fully familiar with Title III provisions related to ELP standards. We recommend that additional training be provided at the LEA level. This training should include all teachers who work with LEP students.

Citation: Section 3113(b) (2) and (b) (3) (D).

Element 3.2 –English Language Proficiency Assessments

Reviewed: The State of Vermont Department of Education has provided evidence that it has a process in place that addresses the requirements in Section 3113.

Citation: Section 3113 (b) (2)

Element 3.3 –New English Language Proficiency Assessments

Reviewed:

The State of Vermont Department of Education has provided evidence that it has a process in place that addresses the requirements in Sections 3113 and 3116.

However, all LEAs did not have a clear understanding of accurate use of the State's ELP assessment.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the State provides training to LEAs regarding the implementation of the State's ELP assessment.

Citation: Section 3113 and 3116

Element 3.4 –Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs)

Reviewed

Element 3.5 –Data Collection

Finding:

The State of Vermont Department of Education did not provide evidence of a written protocol for collecting and maintaining required Title III data submissions.

Further Action Required:

The State must submit evidence of a written protocol for collecting and maintaining all required Title III data elements.

Citation: Section 3113, 3121, and 3122

State Level Activities; Required Activities; Immigrant Children and Youth

Element 4.1 – State Level Activities

Reviewed

Element 4.2 – Required Subgrantee Activities

Reviewed

The State of Vermont Department of Education provided guidance to LEAs regarding the two Title III required subgrantee activities: language instructional education programs and professional development for ESL and content area teachers.

Commendation:

The State assesses the needs of the LEAs and provides technical assistance including, detailed documentation and information related to Title III requirements. Focus Groups,

composed of LEA Title III coordinators collaborate regularly to identify training activities that address the ongoing challenges of the State's LEP and immigrant students.

Citation: Section 3115(c)

Element 4.3 – Authorized Subgrantee Activities

Reviewed

Element 4.4 – Activities by Agencies Experiencing Substantial Increases in Immigrant Children and Youth

Reviewed

State Review of Local Plans

Element 5.1 – State Review of Local Plans

Reviewed

Element 5.2 – Private School Participation

Reviewed

Element 5.3 – Teacher English Fluency

Reviewed

State Monitoring of Subgrantees

Element 6.1 – State Monitoring of Subgrantees

Finding:

The State of Vermont Department of Education did not provide evidence of a complete monitoring plan for the review of subgrantee compliance with Title III requirements.

Further Action Required:

The State must develop a monitoring plan that includes the Title III programmatic and fiscal requirements. The State must also develop a monitoring plan to ensure that the LEAs receiving Title III funds are monitored regularly for compliance.

Citation: Section 3113, 3122; EDGAR 34 CFR 76.770; 80.40

Parental Notification

Element 7.1– Parental Notification

Reviewed

Citation: Section 3302