

Lebanon City Schools Title I Programs Frequently Asked Questions

What is Title I?

Title I is the largest federal assistance program for our nation's schools. The program serves millions of children in elementary and secondary schools each year. Part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I provides financial assistance to school districts to ensure that all students meet challenging state academic standards.

How does Title I work?

The federal government provides funding to the states each year for Title I. The State Educational Agencies (in Lebanon's case, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce) disburses funds to school districts based on the number of students enrolled in the free or reduced-price lunch program. Lebanon City Schools then identifies eligible schools and students and provides Title I services.

What Lebanon school buildings have a Title I program this year?

In the 2024-2025 school year, Bowman Primary and Donovan Elementary each have Title I programs. Lebanon City Schools uses federal Title I funds to support students who are at-risk of not passing mandated state achievement tests. Students in grades K-4 can be served in the Title I program. Preschool is not part of Title I.

What do students do in the Title I programs?

Building literacy skills is the focus of each of Lebanon's Title I programs. Depending on the skill level of students, teachers use a variety of resources including decodable texts, predictable/patterned texts, and sight word texts to help students develop literacy skills. Teachers have all been trained in Orton Gillingham methodology, and rely on their training and experience to most appropriately assist each student.

My child does not receive free or reduced-price meals; how can he or she receive Title I services?

Schools qualify for Title I funding based on the percentage of students who receive free or reduced-price meals. Admission into Title I services is solely based on a student's academic performance. Any student is eligible if he or she qualifies academically; economic status is not a consideration.

Who are the teachers who work in the Lebanon's Title I programs?

At Bowman Primary: Mary Bookman, Kara Davenport, Shannon Elliott, Julie Meno, Angie Saunders, and Anna Sheanshang. At Donovan Elementary: Jordana Conger, Alisonne Hicks and Vicky Spinner.

How are students chosen for a Title I program?

Students are selected to participate in a Title I program based on aimswebPlus data (grades K-2) and iReady benchmark assessment data (grades 3-4).

When will my student work with a Title I teacher?

In most cases, students work with their Title I teacher daily for 20-30 minutes. Students leave their regular classroom and receive small group instruction from the Title I teacher. This model is commonly referred to as a pull-out program. Students do not miss core instruction to work with their Title I teacher.

How can I be involved as a parent?

1. Each school plans multiple parental involvement events each year. Attend as many as you can!
2. Support the items in the Parent-School Compact, an agreement between school staff members, parents, and students to share the goal of helping students meet state standards.
3. Determine if teachers are using apps or other electronic means of communication.
4. A Parent Title I Advisory Committee meets to review the Title I Policies and make recommendations. This group also reviews the Parent School Compacts. If you are the parent or guardian of a student receiving Title I support and would like to serve on this Parent Advisory Committee in the future,

please contact Mark Graler at 513-934-5772, or graler.mark@lebanonschools.org. If you need special assistance to enable your participation, please let us know.

If my child receives Title I support now does that mean he or she will always receive Title I support?

No. Each year school staff members revisit and review the procedures and criteria to determine which students qualify for Title I services. Students may also be dismissed from Title I during a school year if they have shown progress.

How do students refer to Title I? Is there a stigma attached to Title I?

Title I programs are known as Book Club or Reading Club. Kids love being in clubs. We are unaware of students being stigmatized by participation in Title I programs.

When do students stop participating in Title I programs?

At the beginning of the school year and again after i-Ready diagnostic assessments, lists are prepared at each school that contain student names and various data points. Federal law requires that school staff use data to place students in Title I programs. Using the data, students are listed in order of need, and those with the greatest need participate in the program.

Other questions?

Please get in touch with any of us for more information.

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