MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

New Bedford
(LEA Code: 0201)

ESSA Federal Grant Program Monitoring (I, IIA, and IVA)

Monitoring Outcomes Report

Issued: June 17, 2025
Last Updated: December 09, 2025

Federal Grant Programs Team

Resource Allocation Strategy and Planning Office

Patrick Tutwiler
Interim Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

To: New Bedford, Title I, IIA, and IVA Directors in FY 2024 Monitoring Cohort

From: Simone Lynch, Director of Federal Grant Programs

Date: June 17, 2025

Subject: Notice of FY 2024 ESSA (Titles I, IIA, and IVA) program monitoring required actions

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Thank you for submitting materials for your district's FY 2024 federal grant program monitoring review. Our federal grants program staff members have reviewed the materials your district submitted and, in certain cases, have requested and obtained additional documentation from your district.

All district submissions, record of review, and the district's monitoring outcomes report are located in the Communication Hub and Monitoring Portal (CHAMP). The report lists all review criteria and indicates which requirements were fulfilled and which had findings. Criteria with findings include a description of the finding, required action, and a deadline for submission of evidence that the required action to address the finding is complete.

Evidence of required actions must be uploaded in CHAMP by **October 10, 2025** in the same manner that initial submission of documentation was uploaded by the district's monitoring contact person.

The federal government, the Department (DESE), and the district all have an interest in seeing that actions taken to address findings are sufficient and that compliance with grant program requirements is sustained beyond completion of this monitoring review. To this end, your ESSA grant monitoring reviewer will be in contact as needed to provide your district support. Support and oversight can range from phone contact and online meetings to in-person visits and required in-depth technical assistance activities.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your ESSA grant monitoring reviewer.

Monitoring Outcomes Report

Criteria	Finding	Requirement Fulfilled	Required Action Resolved (if applicable)
1-A Title I Needs Assessment		Yes	
1-B Title IIA Needs Assessment		Yes	
1-C Districts that receive a Title IVA allocation greater than $30,000 - Needs Assessment		Yes	
1-D Submission of Annual ESSA Grant Application		Yes	
1-E-1 Private School Outreach		Yes	
1-E-2 Private School Participation and Programming		Yes	
1-F Private School Participants		Yes	
1-G Equitable Access to Excellent Educators		Yes	
2-A Maintenance of Effort		Yes	
2-B Comparability of Services	Yes		12/09/2025
2-C Title I Supplement, Not Supplant		Yes	
2-F Reservation of Title I Funds		Yes	
3-A Title I Family/Guardian Notification		Yes	
3-B Title I Family/Guardian Engagement	Yes		10/27/2025
3-C Title I Family/Guardian Outreach and Involvement	Yes		10/27/2025
4-A Title I Evaluation		Yes	
4-B Title I Schoolwide Programs		Yes	
4-D Accountability related required actions - schools designated as TSI or CSI		Yes	
5-A Title I Selection and Allocation		Yes	

7-A Title IIA Allowable Activities		Yes	
7-B Title IIA Supplement, Not Supplant		Yes	
8-A Title IIA Allocating Funds	Yes		10/21/2025
9-A Professional Growth and Improvement		Yes	
10-A Title IIA Program Activities Evaluation	Yes		11/06/2025
11-A Title IVA Direct Administrative Costs		Yes	
11-B Title IVA Supplement, not Supplant		Yes	
12-A Title IVA Distribution of Funds	Yes		10/21/2025
13-A Title IVA Program Activities Evaluation	Yes		11/06/2025

2-B Comparability of Services **Finding**

Requirements

Comparability of Services:
District has and follows a written comparability reporting procedure. District's comparability demonstration is prepared annually and demonstrates that services provided through state and local funds in Title I schools are comparable to those provided in non-Title I schools. When all schools are Title I schools, comparability demonstration shows that district uses state and local funds to provide services that, taken as a whole, are substantially comparable in each school.
(N.B., Comparability of services applies to local and state funds, not to Title I or other federal funds.)

Legal Standards

ESEA §1118(c)

Finding Description

The comparability procedure did not follow the instructions on the second tab in the excel workbook, specifically step 6, <<When all schools in a grade span are Title I>>. To demonstrate comparability among Title I schools, a school district may form a comparison group representing no more than half of all the schools within the grade span and that comparison group must come from the schools with the smallest incidence of poverty.

Required Action

Submit a corrected step 6 for the comparability demonstration.

Deadline for Submission of Evidence

Oct 10, 2025

3-B Title I Family/Guardian Engagement — Finding

Requirements

District and schools develop jointly with, annually evaluate and update with, and distribute to families/guardians written family/guardian engagement policies and school-family/guardian compacts.
• Family/Guardian engagement policies describe specific rights of families/guardians and the information and meaningful activities developed with families/guardians so the entire community is prepared to participate in student educational growth. Policies must also describe how families/guardians are involved in an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the family/guardian engagement in improving academic achievement.
• School-family/guardian compacts are agreements between the entire school and the home (families/guardians) that describe the responsibilities of each party, including the student, if desired.

Legal Standards

ESEA §§1111-1112; §§1114-1116

Finding Description

No family engagement policy has been submitted. This submission also explicitly calls for evidence that the family engagement policy has been reviewed by families/guardians. The School-Family/Guardian compact is not dated and there's no evidence that it has been shared with families.

Required Action

1. Submit a current, dated copy of the district's and each Title I school's Title I family engagement policy after they have been updated with family/guardian input. Submit evidence that the family engagement policies have been reviewed by parents and revisions have been made in an update policy. 2. Submit dated Title I School-Family/Guardian compact for SY25-26 with evidence that it has been shared with families.

Deadline for Submission of Evidence

Oct 10, 2025

3-C Title I Family/Guardian Outreach and Involvement — Finding

Requirements

Schools conduct meetings at least annually to inform participating families/guardians of students about Title I programs. District and its schools develop materials and implement training/meeting time for Title I families/guardians to understand and collaborate on:
• The state’s academic content standards and state student academic achievement standards;
• State and local academic assessments, including alternative assessments;
• The family/guardian engagement requirements of section 1116; and
• Sharing best practices and resources with families/guardians on how to monitor and improve student academic progress and achievement
Additionally, districts and schools provide accessible tools to assist all families in understanding and collectively supporting student improvement and achievement.

Legal Standards

ESEA §§1111-1112; §§1114-1116

Finding Description

The Open House flyer and sign-in sheets show no evidence that Title I topics were discussed with parents.

Required Action

Submit a dated agenda or other evidence (e.g., PowerPoint, etc.) showing that required Title I topics were discussed at the annual Open House meeting.

Deadline for Submission of Evidence

Oct 10, 2025

8-A Title IIA Allocating Funds — Finding

Requirements

Allocating funds: Activities supported with Title II, Part A funds must collectively address the needs of all subgroups of students in the district. In addition, schools identified for support and improvement, and schools with the highest percentage of low-income students are prioritized for participation in activities funded by Title II, Part A.

Legal Standards

ESEA § 2103(b)(2) and § 2103(b)(2)(C)

Finding Description

The submission did not include a description of the process for prioritizing the distribution of Title IIA funds to schools.

Required Action

Submit a description of how Title II, Part A funds are prioritized based on the needs of subgroups of students in the district (e.g., schools with the highest percentage of low-income students are prioritized).

Deadline for Submission of Evidence

Oct 10, 2025

10-A Title IIA Program Activities Evaluation — Finding

Requirements

Professional development and other activities funded with Title IIA funds must use data and ongoing evaluation to continually update and improve activities.

Legal Standards

ESEA § 2102(b)(2)(D)

Finding Description

Missing Title IIA program evaluation.

Required Action

Submit a written summary of the 2024-25 school year Title IIA program evaluation, including indicators of impact on student achievement, strengths and weaknesses of the program, and subsequent program changes. The summary should include evaluation of participating private school services as well. Submit a detailed plan for how you will carry out the 2025-26 Title IIA program evaluation, including the timeline of steps involved, data collected and analyzed to gauge impact, individuals responsible for each step, and

stakeholders consulted. Include in your plan how you will collaborate with participating private schools to evaluate services.

Deadline for Submission of Evidence

Oct 10, 2025

12-A Title IVA Distribution of Funds — Finding

Requirements

Districts are required to prioritize the distribution of Title IVA funds to schools with the greatest needs, have the highest percentages or numbers of children in poverty, are identified for support and improvement, are implementing targeted support and improvement plans, or are identified as a persistently dangerous public elementary school or secondary school under section 8532.

Legal Standards

ESEA §4106(e)(2)(A)

Finding Description

The submission did not include a description of the process for prioritizing the distribution of Title IVA funds to schools.

Required Action

Submit a description of how distribution of Title IV, Part A funds are prioritized based on the needs of subgroups of students in the district (e.g., schools with the highest percentage of low-income students are prioritized).

Deadline for Submission of Evidence

Oct 10, 2025

13-A Title IVA Program Activities Evaluation — Finding

Requirements

The district annually reports to the state how funds are being used and the degree to which the district has made progress toward meeting the objectives and outcomes described in its application for the use of these funds.

Legal Standards

ESEA §4106(e)(2)(F)

Finding Description

Missing Title IVA program evaluation.

Required Action

Submit a written summary of the 2024-25 school year Title IVA program evaluation, including indicators of impact on student achievement, strengths and weaknesses of the program, and subsequent program changes. The summary should include evaluation of participating private school services as well. Submit a detailed plan for how you will carry out the 2025-26 Title IVA program evaluation, including the timeline

of steps involved, data collected and analyzed to gauge impact, individuals responsible for each step, and stakeholders consulted. Include in your plan how you will collaborate with participating private schools to evaluate services.

Deadline for Submission of Evidence

Oct 10, 2025