

## **Title V, Part B, Subpart 2: Rural and Low-Income School Program**

1. Outcomes and Objectives (*ESEA section 5223(b)(1)*): Provide information on program objectives and outcomes for activities under Title V, Part B, Subpart 2, including how the SEA will use funds to help all students meet the challenging State academic standards.

The Rural and Low-Income Schools Program provides flexibility for LEAs to use grant funding to supplement the funding they receive under various ESSA programs. Specifically, RLIS grant funding can be used for activities authorized under Title I Part A, Title II Part A, Title III, Title IV Part A, and for parental involvement activities. As grant funds are to be used based on needs identified by each LEA, the PED's measurable goals and objectives for this program will be based on the specific set of activities the LEA has opted to implement. LEAs will be required to use the RLIS funds to support the Title program(s) they have selected. Therefore, the measurable program objectives will be aligned with the specific Title program(s).

2. Technical Assistance (*ESEA section 5223(b)(3)*): Describe how the SEA will provide technical assistance to eligible LEAs to help such agencies implement the activities described in ESEA section 5222.

Eligible LEAs will receive technical assistance from PED through webinars specific to each of the allowable uses of RLIS funding under Title V, Part B, Subpart 2. Webinars will be presented by PED staff from the Title I, Title II, Title III, and Title IV-A program offices. This technical assistance will focus on supporting LEAs with implementing the below two initiatives:

- The Small, Rural School Achievement Program (CFDA no. 84.358A) which authorizes the Secretary to award formula grants directly to eligible local educational agencies (LEAs) (i.e., those LEAs eligible under the Alternative Fund Use Authority (AFUA) described below) to carry out activities authorized under other specified Federal programs. The Alternative Fund Use Authority (AFUA) is a flexibility provision that allows eligible LEAs to combine funding under certain programs to carry out local activities under other specified Federal programs. An LEA eligible for the SRSA program not only benefits from SRSA grant program funds, but also may exercise a key flexibility provision in the ESEA. Section 5211(a) of the ESEA, known as the Alternative Fund Use Authority (AFUA), gives an eligible LEA broad authority to spend funds the LEA receives under selected ESEA programs on activities authorized under several additional ESEA programs. The authority is specifically designed to give small, rural LEAs greater latitude to spend their Federal funds in ways that best address an LEA's particular needs.
- The Rural and Low-Income School Program (CFDA no. 84.358B) is designed to address the needs of rural, low-income schools. The Secretary awards formula grants to State educational agencies (SEAs), which in turn award subgrants to eligible LEAs either competitively or on a formula basis. The funds are to be used to carry out activities specified by the statute.