

What Does That Mean?

A Guide to Common Education Acronyms and Vocabulary Related to Private Schools

Acronyms

EDGAR [Education Department General Administrative Regulations](#) (governing federal grants)

EL English Learner (sometimes called ELL or LEP)

ESL English as a Second Language

ESSA [Every Student Succeeds Act](#) (the new federal education law)

ESC Education Service Center

IDEA [Individual with Disabilities Education Act](#) (special education)

IEP Individual Education Plan (for students served by special education)

LEA Local Education Agency (the local school district)

NCLB No Child Left Behind (the federal education law before ESSA)

ONPE Office of Nonpublic Education at [USDE](#)

Pre-K Pre-Kindergarten (PK)

PNP Private Nonprofit School

SEA State Education Agency (TEA)

TEA [Texas Education Agency](#)

TEKS [Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills](#) (state education standards)

TEPSAC [Texas Private School Accreditation Commission](#)

TPSA [Texas Private Schools Association](#)

USDE [United State Department of Education](#)

Vocabulary

[Affirmation of Consultation](#) - document signed by PNP and LEA confirming that timely and meaningful discussion occurred and that initial plans for PNP equitable services have been made

[Consultation](#) - successful consultation begins well before the implementation of services, establishes positive and productive working relationships, makes planning effective, continues throughout implementation, and serves to ensure that the services provided meet the needs of eligible PNP students and teachers

Equitable Services – services provided for PNP students, teachers, or families; these services do not have to be the same as those provided for public schools, but they must meet the needs of the PNP, be proportionately equitable in value to services provided for public schools, and follow program guidelines

Non-Regulatory Guidance: Fiscal Changes and Equitable Services under ESSA – November 2016 – guidance document from USDE to assist TEA and LEAs in providing equitable services for PNPs under ESSA (begins at Section V - Equitable Services on p. 23)

Ombudsman – the person at SEA who helps to ensure that private school children, teachers and other educational personnel receive services equitable to those in public schools, and who responds to and resolves complaints from PNPs (Cory Green, TEA Ombudsman pnpombudsman@tea.texas.gov)

PS3099 - the ESSA grant application schedule for planning PNP equitable services

Secular, neutral, and nonideological - equitable services provided for PNPs must not be religious in any way

Statute - the law that must be followed (ESSA) by TEA and LEAs

Third party contract - when an LEA contracts with an outside company to provide PNP tutoring services, the services are provided by employees of the tutoring company, not by employees of the LEA

Title I, Part A – a program that provides academic assistance for PNP students who have educational need as evidenced by multiple, educationally-related, objective criteria; they must be failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet high student academic achievement standards. Other services could include counseling, family literacy program, computer-assisted instruction, and professional development for teachers of identified Title I students

Title I, Part C – a program that provides services to benefit PNP migrant students; included are services to meet academic, social, and emotion needs, family literacy program, and professional development for teachers of migrant students

Title II, Part A – a program that provides professional development activities for PNP teachers, instructional leadership teams, principals, and other school leaders to address the specific needs of their students in accordance with the purposes of Title II

Title III, Part A – a program that provides supplemental instructional services for PNP students who are English learners; also included are family literacy programs and professional development for teachers of PNP English learners

Title III, Immigrant – a program that provides supplemental instructional services for PNP students who are immigrants; also included are family literacy programs and professional development for teachers of PNP Immigrant students; these funds are only available from a limited number of LEAs

Title IV, Part A – a program that provides services to support well-rounded educational opportunities, safe and healthy students, and effective use of technology